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AIDS Ride, a fatal dog mauling, TG benefits,
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the year 2001 in review.
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BAY AREA REPORTER

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Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

State changes focus in prevention

25% of funds now have to target HIVers

by Matthew S. Bajko

In an effort to stop HIV-positive people from infecting others, the state Office of AIDS is mandating that local health jurisdictions spend 25 percent of their HIV prevention dollars on programs targeting positive people.

The decision, which takes effect January 1, 2002, will impact the \$18 million given to the state's counties for HIV prevention programs. Until recently, not much attention had been given to prevention efforts for positive people.

"This is a major shift in California AIDS funding. We are very serious about this," said Harold Rasmussen, chief of the HIV education and prevention services branch of the state Department of Health Services. "We are looking at prevention for positive people so that positive people do not engage in unsafe activities and can change their lifestyles."

While it does raise some concern on how it will impact the \$3 million the city receives in state HIV prevention money, the new funding mandate is mostly welcomed by San Francisco prevention officials.

"I think the change makes sense. It is just tough when the state issues the policy in a year when they have already cut the budget by 10 percent," said Steve Tierney, the city's HIV prevention director.

In the 2001 San Francisco HIV Prevention Plan, the city estimates out of 46,800 gay and bisexual male residents, 27 percent, or 12,786, are HIV-positive. In 2001, it is estimated that 748 gay and bisexual men will become infected with HIV.

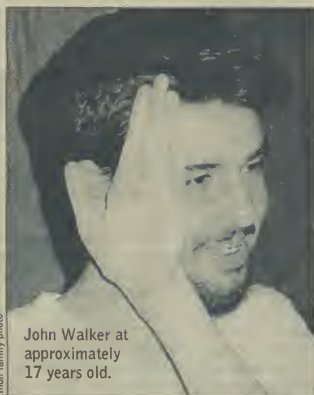
Until recently, prevention programs have mainly focused on the larger population of people who are HIV-negative. While a media campaign called "HIV stops with me" specifically targeted HIV-positive people, most programs do not make a distinction between the two groups.

"Historically, HIV prevention efforts have targeted HIV-negative folks and neglected HIV-positive people," said Dr. Jeff Leiphart, director of the LIFE Institute at Shanti. "Each new HIV infection requires the participation of an HIV-positive person, so targeting them in prevention is common sense."

In the last several years, many HIV prevention providers have increasing-

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Does it matter that John Walker's father is gay?



Lindh family photo

John Walker at approximately 17 years old.

analysis by Matthew S. Bajko and Cynthia Laird

In the "Lindh family fact sheet" released by attorney James J. Brosnahan, one fact is missing: accused American Taliban John Walker's father, Frank Lindh, is gay.

What that has to do with Walker's conversion to Islam and his decision to join the Taliban in fighting against the Northern Alliance and the United States isn't clear, but it is clear that Lindh and his attorney don't want to talk about the major change that occurred in Lindh's life in 1997.

Neither Brosnahan nor Lindh have returned repeated phone calls from the Bay Area Reporter seeking comment. At press time, the Bush administration was still debating what charges Walker will face. He is currently classified as a "military detainee"

and is aboard a U.S. ship. Walker, 20, was captured earlier this month in Afghanistan.

The story that Lindh is gay had only been intimated at in coverage by reporters for daily newspapers. In the New York Times December 11 article about Walker, the paper refers to a Bill Jones of San Rafael, "with whom Mr. Lindh lived for two years after separating from his wife."

The article never fully explains why Lindh left his wife. Nor did Lindh disclose his sexuality while being interviewed by Larry King on CNN. Instead, that part of the story has been so far relegated to the gossip pages.

San Francisco Examiner columnist P.J. Corkery reported Monday, December 24 that in fact Jones's relationship with Lindh was that of landlord-tenant and later just as friend.

"But I was not his companion or partner."

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Terror attacks topped news in '01

essay by Cynthia Laird

On a crisp autumn morning in New York City, the world watched in horror on live television as hijacked airplanes were turned into flying bombs and destroyed the two 110-story towers of the World Trade Center. A third airplane hit the Pentagon while a fourth crashed into a Pennsylvania field.

Life has not been the same.

We've heard it repeatedly since September 11, 2001 – everything has changed. Virtually every aspect of daily life for everyone in the country has been altered – in ways large and small – in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks that killed thousands in New York, Washington, D.C., and western Pennsylvania. From widespread support for the war on terrorism to accepting increased security, life in the U.S. has been altered.

Indisputably the biggest story of the year, the events of September 11 and its aftermath continue to affect all of us, including the LGBT community. A number of gays and lesbians lost their lives. Still, the mainstream press, for the most part, struggled with the gay angle. It took awhile for media outlets to report that some victims were gay. Some, like United Flight 93 hero and San Francisco resident Mark Bingham, were written about, others, like New York Fire Department chaplain Father Mychal Judge, were kept in the closet.

Bingham has become the most visible of the gay victims. He called his mother from the airplane and said he and others were going to take on the hijackers. While the FBI so far has refused to release the cockpit voice tape of Flight 93's final minutes, it is widely



Mark Bingham.

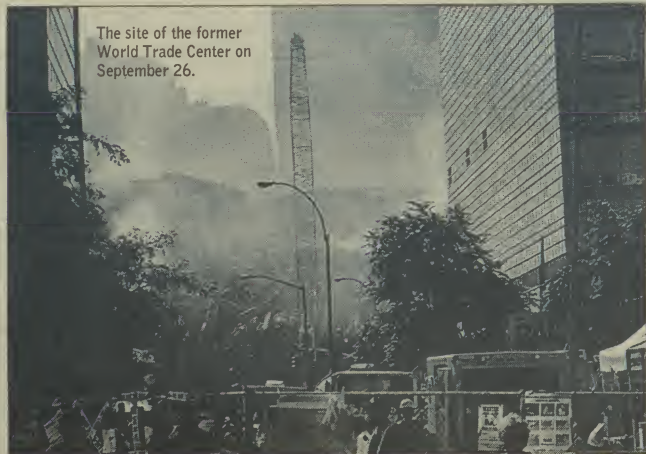
believed that Bingham and other passengers did attack the hijackers, forcing the plane to crash.

Just after September 11, a makeshift memorial was set up in the Castro where people left flowers, candles, and cards in memory of Bingham and the other victims. San Francisco is considering renaming the Eureka Valley Recreation Center after him, and a bench was dedicated earlier this month outside of Los Gatos, where he spent part of his childhood. Bingham graduated from

the University of California, Berkeley and was a member of the SF Fog, a gay rugby team. He is survived by his mother, Alice Hoglan and his former partner, Paul Holm.

Senator John McCain (R-Arizona) came to Berkeley and spoke at Bingham's memorial

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The site of the former World Trade Center on September 26.

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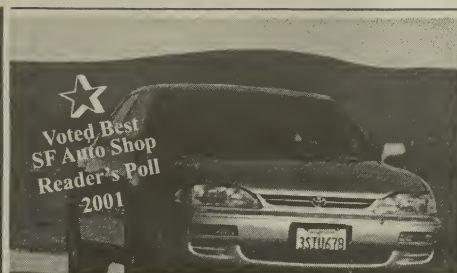
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Holiday meal for PWAs



Hundreds of people living with AIDS attended the AIDS Emergency Fund's annual Christmas Eve dinner in San Francisco, where they were treated to a full meal and entertainment.

Party poopers prevail

New Year's Eve dance event canceled

by Joe Dignan

Raves are a lot less fun when city bureaucrats get involved. A much-anticipated New Year's Eve celebration to be held at the SOMARTS gallery was canceled on Friday, December 21 because police attorneys could not find a category under which to issue a permit.

"I feel like I'm half brain dead. It was a huge amount of stress," said promoter John Wood. "This was a \$40,000 party. I have two live acts coming in from London and another from Spain."

Wood had worked since November with San Francisco Police Department Deputy Chief Heather Fong and Commander Greg Suhr. He even had the help of Supervisor Mark Leno and his staff who also met with the police. Wood said he had a verbal assurance from the Police Department that the party would be allowed to go forward.

In the end, Wood withdrew his application because police said that while there are provisions in San Francisco's Police Code to allow one-time events outdoors, there is no mechanism to do the same thing inside.

"We want to phrase this positively. They were being very cooperative. It's the law that's the problem," said Wood.

The party was to be a benefit

for the San Francisco Late Night Coalition. It was also to be a test case for a new permitting process for one-night events in new spaces which the SFLNC hoped would bring raves under the control of the police and fire departments and provide a mechanism for safety inspections of the warehouse spaces in which they are often held. It would also allow promoters some certainty that their party would not abruptly end in a police raid.

"The whole point of this party was to do a test case for the one-night permit," said Wood. "We were fully willing to be legal. We want a permit that allows us to legally do our party. We were in a tough situation."

"If you don't get a permit, you're shut down. But there's no permit to get," he added.

Wood said he lost about \$4,000 to \$5,000 as a result of the cancellation. "I could sue the city," he said, "but I won't. I don't feel that anybody was out to kill this party."

Backroom political and legal work continues on the new one-night rave permit. Leno and his staff, including legislative aide Nathan Purkiss, have been working with the City Attorney's office to work out the details of the new legislation.

"John Wood and the Late Night Coalition have been amazingly patient as they wind their way through this bureaucratic maze,"

said Leno. "The city needs a one-night permit for any sort of indoor event, and I will be introducing legislation to create that permit within the next few months."

Leno's office is also working to establish an Entertainment Commission in San Francisco. The commission would be a civilian body primarily charged with the responsibility of administering San Francisco's nightlife and adjudicating the often conflicting wishes of promoters, other business owners, and residents.

"We're been working on the Entertainment Commission for over a year now and it would, among other things, take the permitting process out of the Police Department and into independent hands," said Leno.

"It would coordinate all entertainment in San Francisco from a street fair to the circus coming to town," Leno added. "Right now, if you're planning an event you may need to interact with as many as 10 different city departments, half of which may require you to apply for a permit. Oftentimes, each of these departments is not communicating with the other. It makes for a very inefficient set of challenges for the organizer to deal with."

"Yeah. It's our number one legislative goal. The upper police brass supports the Entertainment Commission. I think, actually, permitting is a big headache for them," said Wood. ▽

Larry Kramer gets liver transplant

by Jeff Getty

Longtime AIDS activist and playwright Larry Kramer received a much-needed liver transplant last Friday, December 20, at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pennsylvania.

The transplant is notable because Kramer is HIV-positive and had detectable HIV in his bloodstream at the time of the operation. Kramer needed the transplant because of end-stage liver failure caused by hepatitis B.

At press time Kramer's condition was listed as serious, which is

typical following transplantation. He was moved out of the intensive care unit on Wednesday, December 26.

"We are all very hopeful, there's no holding him down," said Kramer's longtime friend and caregiver, Rodger McFarland.

According to McFarland, Kramer's surgery was long and difficult due to damage in the arterial area where the new liver needed to be connected. The transplant surgery was performed by UPMC's Dr. John Fung, Dr. Ashok Jain, and Dr. Bijan Eghtesad, and took some 12 hours. But by Tuesday Kramer was doing quite well and anxious to start his

physical therapy.

Kramer had waited seven months on the transplant waiting list.

Fred Muhlheim of Survive AIDS said, "We are extremely happy to hear the news that Larry was able to get a liver transplant in the nick of time. Getting organ transplants performed for PWAs has been a long struggle, and we hope this will be a turning point."

Kramer is the author of the plays *The Normal Heart* and *The Destiny of Me* and books about the front line of AIDS and gay activism. His screenplay for the 1969 film *Women in Love* was nominated for an Academy Award. ▽

BART officials say drug sniffing dogs will not return

by Matthew S. Bajko

Medical cannabis users do not have to avoid using the Bay Area Rapid Transit system, officials for the transit agency told the *Bay Area Reporter*. While recent reports about BART police using drug-sniffing dogs caused concern among medical pot users, the narcotics canines will not become a daily occurrence on the commuter trains.

"It was just the police doing their thing. It is not a policy decision made by the board or general director," explained BART board member Tom Radulovich, who represents San Francisco. "We don't have any plans to get drug sniffing dogs."

According to BART officials, the use of the dogs was only a demonstration project and training exercise for United States Customs officials, who own the dogs. With BART opening its San Francisco International Airport extension next year, both BART police and Customs agents fear drug traffickers could use the transit system to smuggle narcotics into the region. Officers wanted to see how effective the dogs would be on the BART trains.

"It was a two-day demonstration by the feds to demonstrate the dog and how it interacts with the public. It just so happened

the dog sniffed out some drugs," said BART spokesman Mike Healy. "It is not going to be something we do on a regular basis."

BART police nabbed 12 passengers for misdemeanor marijuana possession and a 13th for petty pot dealing during the two nights the dogs were deployed. News of the arrests in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and on KCBS radio alarmed proponents of legalizing marijuana.

"It is a very concerning issue," Jeff Jones, executive director of the Oakland Cannabis Buyer's Cooperative, told the *B.A.R.* "A lot of our patients use BART because they are ill and do not want to drive."

Since the news coverage of the dogs, Jones said members of the cooperative have called to express their concern. He said many now fear using BART will lead to their being arrested or having their medical pot seized.

"There has been a lot of concern that these dogs are out there to violate their rights," said Jones. "It makes them anxious of traveling on BART safely."

In a letter to the BART board, California NORML coordinator Dale Gieringer denounced the searches as an "obnoxious invasion of personal privacy that will do nothing to enhance public safety."

"No major narcotics traffic is to be found on BART," said Gieringer, whose organization

supports legalizing marijuana. "The principal impact of these sweeps is to arrest harmless pot smokers."

A BART police lieutenant had said that BART's policy is not to arrest legal Proposition 215 patients. Radulovich also stressed that BART policy recognizes the rights granted people under Proposition 215.

During the BART board's meeting Thursday, December 20, Radulovich expressed his objections to the drug dogs, and asked the agency's general manager to draft an official policy regarding future usage of them.

"I brought it up and said I didn't want to see this drug sniffing dog program. I also said I thought the way the public was informed was wrong," said Radulovich, who also felt BART police should have informed the board about the dogs prior to the demonstration. "The calls from constituents have been overwhelmingly negative. Nobody thinks it is a good idea."

In January, BART staff is expected to return to the board with a policy directive on the use of the dogs.

"What if U.S. Customs comes to us again and asks us to cooperate in using the drug sniffing dogs? What would we say to them?" stated Radulovich. "We need to find out what our rights are as a transit agency funded by the federal government." ▼

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Not your normal taxicab

by Jane Warner

Castro and Market, December 20, 2:12 a.m.: Two officers walking back to their squad car observed a man ahead of them open up the back door of the cruiser, get in, and close the door behind him. When the officers arrived at their car, they opened the door and asked the man if he was all right. "I'm fucking drunk," he replied, "take me home now, taxi." When the officers tried to explain that he had stepped into a police car and not a taxi, the man refused to believe them, saying, "Fuck you asshole, take me home now!" Leaving them no choice, the officers placed the man under arrest. Pulling him from the car in order to place him in handcuffs, the man flailed his body in dramatic fashion. The officers handcuffed the 22-year-old man and took him to the county jail, where he was booked on charges of being drunk in public and resisting arrest.

Wake-up call

300 block of Collingwood, December 22, 6:10 a.m.: A man was awakened from his sleep by his ex-

boyfriend standing over him yelling, "I'm going to tie you up and kill you." Afraid for his life, the man jumped out of bed, ran to the phone, and called 911. The ex tried to knock the phone out of the man's hand but couldn't and ran out of the apartment down the hall, where he tried to kick in the door of a neighbor. Unable to break the neighbor's door, the man kicked in the glass window of the apartment lobby.



Crime & Punishment

The 39-year-old suspect ran out of the building and found his ex's Toyota Celica parked outside. Having an extra set of keys, the man got in the car and drove away. Responding officers searched the area but could not find the suspect. The car was later found parked near Dolores Park.

Home where you find one

14th and Dolores streets, December 17, 12:25 a.m.: Police responded to a report of an abandoned vehicle that had been parked at the corner of 14 and Dolores streets for three days. When officers arrived they located the van and ran a check of the license plate, discovering that it was reported stolen. Officers looked inside and discovered a man and a woman asleep in the

back. Police pounded on the door and the couple emerged from the van without incident. The man told officers that he and his girlfriend had not stolen the van, but found it unlocked and thought it was a good place to stay warm for the night. The couple were arrested for auto theft and taken to Mission Station. After further investigation, the man's story checked out and the pair was released from custody. The van was towed to City Tow pending notification of its owner.

Warning not heeded

Castro and 14th streets, December 18, 9:28 p.m.: An officer driving in a marked patrol car observed a car in front of him attempting to make an illegal left turn. The officer stopped behind the car, sounded the squad car's air horn, and illuminated the "no left turn" street sign with the patrol car's spot light. Instead of heeding the officer's warning, the driver of the car proceeded to make a left turn. The officer pulled over the vehicle and asked the driver for his driver's license. A check of the man's license revealed that it had been suspended. The officer cited the man at the scene for making an illegal left turn, driving with a suspended license, and no proof of insurance. The officer confiscated the man's driver's license as well as his car. ▼

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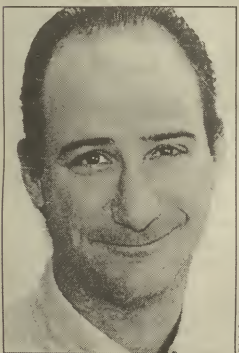
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10 LOCATIONS IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Prevention funds targeting young blacks cut, agency says

by Matthew S. Bajko



David Wallace

After announcing in November it had \$1 million to fund HIV/AIDS prevention programs directed toward young African American gay and bisexual men, the city's HIV prevention director now says the HIV Prevention Planning Council no longer has access to those funds.

The apparent loss in funding is the second financial blow in recent months to the Black Coalition on AIDS. In September, the coalition announced it was not receiving any funding from the city or federal government next fiscal year. While it had expected to ex-

ceed its 2001 budget of \$550,000 from governmental sources, the agency will only receive \$144,000 from the state.

"It was one of the things we were hoping for," said David Wallace, the coalition's director of development and communications, of the \$1 million in unused funds. "Our executive director said the AIDS Office has money set aside for black youth, and they kind of expected us to step up and apply for that."

The money is unobligated funds from 2000 - money the council received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention but did not spend that year. The council had decided to allo-

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PAWS expands services in January

by Katie Szymanski

The LGBT community has led by example in creating and maintaining myriad organizations over the past two decades for people with HIV/AIDS. One down side to these successful models, however, has been the shortage of similar networks for community members with other debilitating illnesses. As HIV becomes more manageable, many AIDS nonprofits have expanded their missions to include people with other diseases, and Pets Are Wonderful Support has become the latest organization to do so.

PAWS is now offering its signature pet services - such as dog walking, vet transportation, food delivery, and animal fostering - to lower-income people with disabling and debilitating illnesses. The expansion program, which

has been in the works for the past two years, begins next month and will start slowly, in order to accommodate new as well as existing clients.

"We're going to take up to five people per month with illnesses other than AIDS; this will allow us to evaluate our performance and make sure we can handle new clients without comprising our services," according to Laura Nelson, client services coordinator for PAWS.

The new guidelines will be implemented much like PAWS has always operated; on the first working day of the month, new clients can call and leave the necessary application information, and PAWS will contact those who qualify. PAWS clients must be low-income residents of San Francisco with a disabling illness who need help caring for their pets. Pets not covered by PAWS include young

animals (under nine months), amphibians, and reptiles.

PAWS will continue to accept people with AIDS as clients with no change in enrollment or service delivery, according to Nelson, who said the service expansion evolved because the organization was seeing fewer clients with HIV as well as receiving more inquiries on behalf of other people in need.

Upcoming dates for new enrollment are Wednesday, January 2; Friday, February 1; and Friday, March 1. Interested prospective clients should call (415) 241-1460 as early as possible (9 a.m.) on those days in order to secure a place. The first five people who qualify will be accepted.

"We're really excited about it," said Nelson. "It's going to be a good thing for PAWS."

For more information, call Nelson directly at (415) 241-1462. ▼



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PREVENTING SYPHILIS is difficult because it is spread through both oral and anal sex. Any skin-to-skin contact can spread it. Condoms help reduce the risk, but they are not completely protective.

GETTING A TEST, and treatment if you have it, is the best way to stop syphilis from spreading. If you have sex with lots of different guys it's a good idea to get an STD check-up every 6 months.

TREATMENT for syphilis is as simple as taking antibiotics. If you go untreated you can end up with serious brain or heart damage.

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OPEN FORUM

On the edge?

At the time, we wrote about concerns we had with President Bush's nomination of John Ashcroft for attorney general. Now, one year later, we continue to be troubled by Ashcroft's tenure, particularly his expansion of authority for federal law enforcement agencies at the expense of civil liberties.

While we support much of the administration's war on terrorism and effort to bring justice to those responsible for the horrific events of September 11, Ashcroft's insistence on detaining hundreds of men of Middle Eastern descent without making public what charges they face should be seen for what it is: a dangerous use of authority by the administration.

To date, only one man has been charged in connection with the September 11 attacks, yet hundreds of others are in custody. Some of the names of those being detained and the charges they face were made public recently, but many others are being held without explanation of why they are behind bars. Ashcroft has testified before Congress on this matter and did not back down when asked about these cases.

Ashcroft's actions and lack of candor in releasing information related to those being held stand in stark contrast to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, whose daily press briefings are at least straightforward if at times short on specifics. The public can accept the idea that not all military information will be released by the Defense Department; and Rumsfeld at least has the fortitude to tell reporters, "I know that information, but I'm not going to tell you."

The sweeping new anti-terror legislation combined with Bush's authority to establish secret military tribunals compromises civil liberties. And as 2001 draws to a close, we in the community should not grow complacent over Ashcroft's new powers. People are being held on little evidence (as far as we can see) and others who have been deemed suspicious have been visited by government

agents on what often appears to be flimsy evidence. It wasn't that long ago when gays were subject to similar witch-hunts

— indeed, the hunts still continue for gays and lesbians serving in the armed forces under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" — as bars were raided and many were arrested. Now, decades later, a new "group" is being targeted by the government.

We suspect that the war on terrorism will not be over for quite some time, and people residing legally in this country should not be subject to discrimination because of their ethnic background any more than if they are gay. Discrimination can take many forms; and in the 100-plus days since September 11, it is important that

we in the community realize how such broad, sweeping powers by federal law enforcement could affect us, too.

In less than a week, a new year will begin. While no one will ever forget the events of September 11 and while the attacks have altered the world in ways large and small, we do not want to see our constitutional rights eroded. There is a difference between accepting increased security at airports (which the vast majority of Americans now favor) and being jailed just because a visa has expired.

As we ring in 2002, we should resolve to push the government to keep checks and balances in place to safeguard our civil liberties. ▼



Editorial



Resolutions for a changed U.S.

by Elizabeth Birch
and Candace Gingrich

As 2001 draws to a close, America's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community can look back on many significant gains. A marked increase in the number of employers offering domestic partner benefits. Rhode Island's addition of gender identity to its non-discrimination law — and the happy end to a lawsuit challenging Maryland's non-discrimination law. Hawaii's and Texas' passing hate crimes laws that cover sexual orientation. The successes were myriad and heartening.

But the GLBT community — along with the entire country — will forever remember this year for the September 11 attacks and the terrible results that are still being played out in the world.

One of the many lessons America learned from September 11 is that there were GLBT victims and heroes, with names and faces and ordinary life histories. Because so many in our community are now committed to living honestly, we had the privilege to learn about these brothers and sisters now that they are gone. Like many of those who died, they also left behind grieving partners, children, houses with mortgages, unpaid car loans, monthly bills — the same sad remnants of so many of the lives stolen by the terrorists.

One key difference for the survivors in our community, however, has been their inability to rely on the same safety net that has caught other surviving families. Because our laws and society don't recognize our relationships and our families, survivors from the GLBT community have had to fight for relief funds from the federal government and from some state and private agencies. They will never get the same Social Security and pension benefits other surviving families have received, and have taken for granted as their due. And if these GLBT families never put their legal houses in

order, the survivors now face losing their homes, their children, their health insurance — their basic security.

The events of September 11 made clear the power of living outside the closet. They also made clear how vulnerable the GLBT community remains.

As we look to 2002, remember that New Year's resolutions aren't all about quitting smoking or losing a few pounds. They can also be about taking the time to thank those who deserve it, protecting our loved ones, and working to make a safer and more accepting world for generations to come. Here are a few suggestions:

• Write your will. September 11 should be a wake-up call for everyone, but especially gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Americans. Because the law does not recognize our families, it is imperative

that we specify who will receive our money and possessions when we die. While many aspects of this planning revolve around couples and children, it is also important for single GLBT Americans, especially those who may not have good relations with their biological families. Other important documents to consider are powers of attorney, living wills, and hospital visitation authorizations. For more information and sample legal documents, visit www.hrc.org/familynet.

• Come out to your health care provider. Being honest about your sexual orientation or gender identity can be a matter of life and death — or, at a minimum, essential to getting effective care and treatment. There is still much misinformation in the medical world about GLBT people and many stereotypes to overcome. By being out, you will help educate your doctor and ensure that you get appropriate care.

• Come out to your elected officials. Politicians can ignore us if they don't know we exist. You can take advantage of HRC's Action Network, pay a local lobbying visit,

or write a letter about an issue that concerns you. Not only will you be exercising your right to political action but you'll be assisting local, state, and national organizations working on GLBT issues.

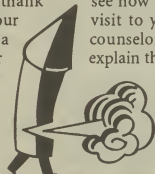
• Be a mentor. Many GLBT adults we've spoken to say that their coming out journeys would have been easier had there been an understanding ear. Contact your local GLBT youth group or community center to see how you can help. You can also pay a visit to your old high school's guidance counselors to share your experiences and explain the needs of GLBT students.

• Thank someone. Far too often, we only speak up when we're unhappy or disgruntled. Thank your mom for including your partner in family gatherings. Praise an elected official for voting your way on a piece of legislation. Thank the person who delivers food to your homebound neighbor living with AIDS.

• Remember the pioneers. Too many GLBT people have forgotten (or never learned) the history of our movement. We're quick to name the Ellens and Eltons as trailblazers because they're famous today. But what of Bayard Rustin, Phyllis Lyon, Del Martin, and Frank Kameny? What about Barbara Gittings, Lisa Ben, Harvey Milk, and Christine Jorgensen? Get to know the giants whose shoulders we — as well as Ellen and Elton — stand upon.

As a most difficult year draws to a close, we look back with gratitude to those GLBT Americans whose honesty has made all our lives easier and more complete. And we look forward to those whose openness will help effect the change we need to protect all our families. ▼

Elizabeth Birch is executive director of the Human Rights Campaign. Candace Gingrich manages HRC's National Coming Out Day project.



Guest Opinion

LETTERS

Supports SFAF's bike ride

I found Pallotta Teamworks' "proposal for healing" advertisement to be long on emotion and short on facts. They state that \$100 million (net) has been raised for AIDS, which is 60 percent of the gross. Thus, a gross of \$167 million has been raised, of which they have kept \$67 million. I would like a detailed accounting of that \$67 million. They also state that their management fees have been less than 5 percent of that gross; meaning management fees are close to \$8 million.

I believe our community deserves a full accounting of the economic benefit derived by Pallotta Teamworks relating to our health crisis. Until then, I fully support the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's decision to go it alone.

Ken Turner, Past President, AIDS Emergency Fund
Past President, Project Inform Rider, California
AIDS Ride IV, San Francisco

'Improprieties' left out of PTW ad

In the December 20 issue of the *B.A.R.*, Pallotta Teamworks published a message about the California AIDS Ride and our decision to disassociate ourselves from that event. Unfortunately that message was filled with misinformation and misleading language. A point-by-point refutation of PTW's ad would be pointless. Indeed, the legal briefs and declarations we have filed in response to Pallotta Teamworks' lawsuit exhaustively cover these matters. Our filing is part of the public record and anyone interested in seeing our response can do so. It can be accessed on our Web site at www.sfaf.org.

Nonetheless it is worth noting that the budget "improprieties" PTW alludes to in its statement are never addressed by the company. This is a core issue for us and one of the fundamental reasons we could not in good conscience continue our working relationship with Pallotta Teamworks. In accepting tax-deductible donations on behalf of people living with HIV and AIDS we have a profound fiduciary responsibility which we take very seriously. The budget improprieties, cost overruns, and PTW's business model are simply inconsistent with our legal responsibilities as beneficiary.

We are in full agreement that we have to get out of the courtroom and put our bikes on the road. We regret that Pallotta Teamworks' lawsuit has put us there. We believe there is room enough on the California highways for a successful AIDS/LifeCycle and California AIDS Ride to take place.

Our focus is on AIDS/LifeCycle (www.aidslifecycle.org) which is going forward with full force, drawing more enthusiastic supporters every day. We continue to be thrilled with the response and humbled by the broad-based support we are receiving. We look forward to seeing you on the road in May.

Gustavo L. Suárez, Communications Director
San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Bicyclists, beware

Recently, cardboard poster advertisements with attached reply cards started to pop up in nearly every storefront in the Castro, as well as in other neighborhoods across San Francisco for the Pallotta Teamworks' California AIDS Ride. While I'm sure many store owners/managers believe that they are giving space to promote a good cause, they are unwittingly providing free advertising for a for-profit company that is not contributing any of its ride proceeds to any Bay Area AIDS service organization.

While the San Francisco AIDS Foundation along with the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center previously benefited from, but also paid expenses to the Pallotta-produced ride in past years, I applaud their decision not to renew their contract with the Pallotta organization, and to produce their own ride, now called AIDS/Lifecycle.

I have been a participant in the Pallotta rides in both California and Boston since 1995 as a contributor, roadside cheerleader, rider, and volunteer crew member. I have spent hundreds and hundreds of my own dollars in mailings to sponsors, travel, bike shipping costs, and personal costs related to the rides. While there has been controversy for several years over the high costs and low returns to beneficiaries, I felt that I could continue to support the rides as long as the sponsoring organizations - SFAF, LAGLC (and Fenway Health Center in Boston) - believed that the rides were beneficial to their organizations.

If the pullout by SFAF and LAGLC were not enough of an indicator to me to end my support of the Pallotta rides, Pallotta's decision to bring a lawsuit against the two nonprofit AIDS service organizations certainly makes me squeeze the brakes tight enough to flip over the handlebars.

This truly saddens me very much, as I have worked hard for the Pallotta events and enjoyed being a part of them. Dan Pallotta certainly has the drive and ability to make big things happen, but unfortunately I believe that this energy has become misguided into a for-profit vehicle. I think that Pallotta's actions against the SFAF and LAGLC could also have a devastating effect on support of his events across the country,

hurting those nonprofit organizations.

If Pallotta really cares about the AIDS service organizations that he has supported over the years more than he cares about the money he would make from his production contract, he will stop taking action against these organizations, sever his ties gracefully, wish them well as they produce their own event, possibly even lend some support to the transition process, and certainly not produce his own California AIDS Ride to compete with the SFAF/LAGLC AIDS/LifeCycle event.

If Dan Pallotta really wants to make a difference in the world, which I believe he has the ability to do, he would reorganize the Teamworks corporation into a nonprofit organization of its own, and commit to becoming a grassroots organization, reducing costs, and getting needed money to the service organizations that need it.

So bicyclists AND merchants: be sure that you know that there are two rides out their soliciting your support (and advertising space in your store). One will contribute funds to providing needed service to HIV/AIDS patients in San Francisco, while the other will contribute money to a for-profit company and some other organizations outside of the Bay Area.

You decide which one you will support.

Peter Kokoszka
San Francisco

On being 25 and gay

Walking around in high school I constantly heard the words "fag" and "homo." What would you do? I did nothing except walk down the hallway and blow it off. But deep down I was full of questions and concerns. Did people think I was gay? I honestly did not think I was gay, but why did strangers think I was gay? Did they know something I did not know about myself or did I give off signs that said I was gay? I can remember constantly asking my friends if I seemed gay? Of course my friends would say no, but years later admitted they kind of wondered. During my years in high school I never kissed a girl and I never had any sexual relations with anyone.

Now at the age of 25 I know the answer to some of my old questions. Yes I am gay, in a world that is very large and confusing to me. Not many of my friends or family know I am gay. How can you tell someone that you're gay when deep down you are scared and lost? I drive down the road and I see the gay pride flags and I want to stop at their house and say, "Hey help, I need a friend." If only it was that easy. I now have gay neighbors and I went up to them recently and I told them it was nice to have them here. They said, "Oh, you must be family," and gave me a hug and went on their way. Family? I love how they expressed themselves to me, but I have not talked to them since. I went to gay Pride this year in Columbus, Ohio looking to find an organization where I could meet people, but I felt so lost there. So many guys dressed up in dresses or were walking around shirtless or with their boyfriends. I know there had to be other single guys walking around like me, but I did not meet any. Where do I go from here?

Here are the facts about my life: I am 25 and live in Columbus, Ohio. I went to college at Ohio State University and have had a great life except for when it comes to sex and relationships. I came out to my mother in June 2001 at a restaurant, crying and not sure how she would take it, but she took it well and was more concerned with AIDS than anything else. Bless her heart. I was a wreck, but she was all smiles. Now telling my dad will be another subject and chapter in my life. I have told a few of my friends and all have taken it very well and wish there was something they could do to make me feel better about myself. Sometimes I just cry for no reason, I feel so alone and I need help. Being 25 and gay and alone is awful. There are so many people in this country that talk about their openness, but magazines and news stories forget about us trapped in the closet who need help to open the door.

In all my experiences I have not met anyone that really knows anything about my life and me. I have lied to men I've met because I was scared I would be "outed" to friends and family. I look on television for representation of gay life and I see *Will & Grace* and *Queer as Folk* and it's all about looks and sex. There are many guys out there reading or hearing this that feel the same way I do... they feel trapped and alone. Where do I go from here? How can I meet a guy? I want someone that is real and wants to meet someone who can support me emotionally. Most gay guys laugh at me when I say I am 25 and just coming out. It's like I missed everything, then you guys say it is over when you hit 30? What's all that about?

I don't know where to turn at times. When you go to the bar it's about one thing. There are bars out there for leather, there are bars out there for the "twinks." Where is the bar for me? I don't run around with my shirt off and I am not into leather or daddies. There is nothing wrong with that, but where is my bar? I am just an average guy here who has a mind and a personality, living in Columbus, Ohio. What now do I do with my life? I need help and I know there are many people living in this country who feel the same as I do.

Jeremy Tipton
Columbus, Ohio

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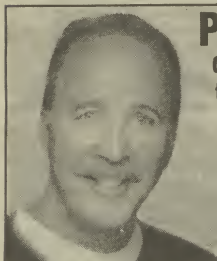
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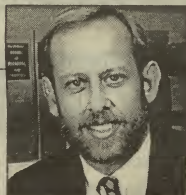
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Resolution for 2002: Let up on the lost

by Dale Carpenter

In a fit of magnanimity and seasonal good cheer, I've decided 2002 is the year I will let up on some people I've been pretty hard on in recent times. Here they are:

(1) *Anti-war gay left.* Since September 11, a very small group of activists and columnists has used the pages of gay newspapers to denounce the efforts of the United States to protect its citizens and its assets against foreign aggression. Anti-war activists have said that the Muslim world would rise against the U.S., that the war was becoming a quagmire, that the people of Afghanistan opposed the American campaign, and that the Northern Alliance would be just as brutally anti-gay and anti-woman as the Taliban.

Well, well. Has any group of people been more consistently wrong at any time in recent history? As columnist and devout left-winger Christopher Hitchens put it, the result of the war is that the United States has bombed Afghanistan *out* of the Stone Age. The Taliban are gone and the Muslim world is relatively quiet. The smiles on the faces of the people of Kabul and other Afghan cities as they greeted their liberators – and were permitted for the first time in years to dress and shave and listen to music as they please – are all we really need to know about the justice of this war.

As for the future of women and gays in Afghanistan, the preliminary signs are good. In addition to many other improvements in their lives, women will be part of the new government. And although Afghanistan is unlikely to become a gay-rights leader, the new government has announced that, at the very least, executions for sodomy will cease.

The truth, though, is that gay opponents of the war have been almost as hard to find as Osama bin Laden. Gays have been *more*

outwardly supportive of the war than other segments of American society. On a recent trip to Houston, I noticed that every gay person I knew – conservative and liberal, Democrat and Republican – had a flag proudly displayed in front of her home. Gay businesses from the Castro to Chelsea have shown the same support, prompting much gnashing-of-teeth among the poor anti-war commentators.

The far left once hoped gays would be the vanguard of the revolution; instead we're the rear guard of reaction.

Continuing to criticize this tiny gaggle of anti-war gay leftists is kicking a dead horse. The best course is to pay them no mind, or perhaps to observe them with the kind of wonder we reserve for monkeys in a zoo.

(2) *National Gay & Lesbian Task Force.* The NGLTF sees itself as the institutional voice of the gay left in Washington. It infamously opposed the Gulf War and regularly holds forth on what it calls "social justice" issues that have no special bearing on gays. It once hired a Marxist executive director. It also sponsors "Creating Change," an annual confabulation of progressives that is usually good for at least one fun column a year. I sometimes think that if the NGLTF did not exist I would have to invent it.

But satire about the NGLTF is falling on hard times. The group has a sensible new leader who is not even a Marxist. So far it has not formally opposed the war on terrorism. Its press releases are starting to make non-histrionic points about policy issues that actually focus on gays!

Until the old NGLTF rears its hydra-head, I resolve to lampoon it no more.

(3) *Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.* Earlier this year, Lambda filed a brief in a federal court opining that the Chicago public schools' same-sex only domestic partners benefits program

is *unconstitutional* because it "discriminates" against unmarried straight workers. Lambda's position was strongly criticized, including by yours truly.

If Lambda's position were accepted, it would threaten the domestic partners programs of numerous public and even private employers who offer benefits to gay couples unable to marry. At the same time, as a cost-saving device, these employers refuse to offer them to straight couples who can get the same (or better) benefits by marrying. Just this month, some state legislators in Minnesota used the argument that such programs discriminate against straight people as a reason to oppose offering benefits to gay couples.

After a Lambda lawyer protested that Lambda had not made such an argument, I quoted Lambda's own brief as proof of my charge and publicly asked the group to clarify its position on the constitutionality of same-sex-only benefits programs. To date, there has been no response from Lambda. I can only conclude the group is so embarrassed by what its lawyers did that it wants no more attention drawn to the matter.

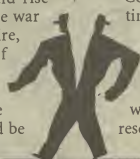
Fine. As long as Lambda does not repeat the dangerous mistake it made in Chicago, I resolve to say no more.

(4) *Bill Clinton.* The man who betrayed gay people by supporting the most anti-gay legislation in the country's history (the Defense of Marriage Act and "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"), who turned the Oval Office into an orgasmatron, and who wouldn't know a principle if it were the only topping on a pizza slice, has been out of office for a year. But I've continued to deride him on occasion anyway.

Time to give Slick Willy his well-deserved rest. No more snide references to that shameless scallawag in this column.

Of course, New Years' resolutions are made to be broken. ▼

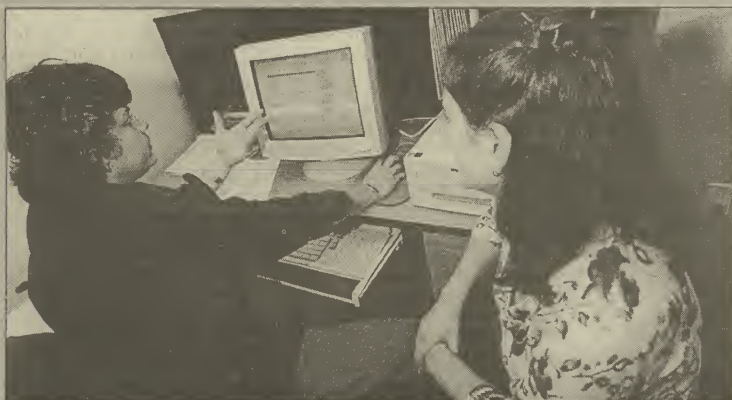
Dale Carpenter is a law professor. He can be reached at OutRight@aol.com.



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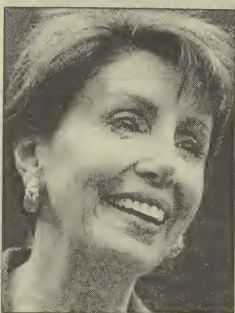
Zulma Oliveras, left, coordinator of the Community Resource Center at the Women's Building, shows Marilyn Brookings the new BRAIN database of local social service resources in San Francisco, San Mateo, and Alameda counties as part of the new center that opened this month at the Women's Building. Other services include a career center with listings; fax, copier, and Internet access; and health and family resources. The center provides a special emphasis on housing and employment services for low-income people and recent immigrants. For more information, call (415) 431-1180.

POLITICS

Nancy Pelosi becomes D.C. power broker

by Wayne Friday

When San Francisco Congresswoman **Nancy Pelosi** takes her new position on Capitol Hill next month as the House Democratic minority whip she not only becomes the first woman in either party to rise so high in the House leadership, she becomes the Democratic party's newest political star.



Rep. Nancy Pelosi

The Democrats know they have tapped the right person to serve as their party whip ("It's the 'whip' thing that intrigues everyone," Pelosi quipped), second only to that of House Minority Leader **Richard Gephardt** (D-Missouri). Is Pelosi a tough, experienced, savvy political professional who can handle her way around Washington? You bet she is, and the Democratic Party clearly knows it.

While the country—Democrats and Republicans alike—is still solidly behind the president in the fight against terrorism, when Pelosi takes over next month from Representative **David Bonior** (D-Michigan) as the party's No. 2 House leader, the Democrats will have not only a polished political professional who knows how the Washington political game is played, but one who knows how to win elections as well. To be sure, Pelosi will use her many talents as the Democratic Party goes into the 2002 congressional elections determined to keep its edge in the U.S. Senate and, hopefully, pick up the handful of seats it needs to take control of the House.

To do this, Democrats know they will have to get the national political debate away from the war in Afghanistan and the lingering threat of terrorism, smallpox, and anthrax, and back to the Democratic Party's favorite: domestic issues. When it comes to focusing on Republican failures (particularly from the White House) on issues like education, the country's failing health care system, funding Medicare and Medicaid, safeguarding Social Security, the fight against AIDS, and other domestic issues, who better to carry the message than Pelosi?

When interviewed recently in Washington as to what she feels her new high-profile presence in Congress will mean, Pelosi replied that it was of the "utmost importance" that the Democratic Party make the economy a principal issue as it goes into the 2002 congressional elections. Indeed, in a recent fundraising letter sent out by the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, Gephardt made it clear that while "our nation and its political leaders have

said clearly to the world that America stands united in our battle to overcome terrorism," Democratic leaders like Pelosi and Senate Majority Leader **Tom Daschle** (D-South Dakota), differ greatly with Bush and the Republicans on a host of domestic issues.

Pelosi is the senior Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee where she is said to be "doggedly" monitoring the work of the CIA and other security agencies in the forefront of the battle against terrorism. Being from the Bay Area, Pelosi also keeps a close watch on the high-tech and New Economy entrepreneurs, and she is also a veteran member of the House Appropriations Committee, where she plays an important part in determining how the budget pie is divided.

Like fellow Democratic Senator **Dianne Feinstein**, Pelosi is very popular in California and candidates up and down the state seek her endorsement (she supports **Mark Leno** for the 13th Assembly District seat). She is expected to play a major part in fundraising for the national party, as she is already in demand for speaking engagements across the country.

Hopes for New Year

The year 2001 is nearly history, and frankly, in all the years I've written this column, I've never been of the mind to spend the last column of the year reviewing the year as many other columnists seem obligated to do. So, I'm using this final column of the year to speculate on a couple of things I think or hope might happen in the New Year.

First, I hope they find **Osama bin Laden** (hopefully even before the New Year). I also hope that our leaders find out just what really did go wrong with this country's intelligence that allowed September 11 to happen in the first place (both President Bushes and **Bill Clinton** should be asked about that one).

I'd like to convince **Rudy Giuliani** to move to San Francisco and run for mayor in 2003 (he's out of a job on December 31, you know). He's far better than any of those being mentioned for mayor around here now; besides, I'm told he lives with two gay men in NYC so moving to San Francisco shouldn't be anything big for him. I live in a modest house (it's not Gracie Mansion, however) in a good area, and I'd give up my bedroom for him. I'd lay odds that he could win.

Then I would hope (no, pray) that someone at City Hall eventually notices the growing homeless problem in the city and has the balls to finally do something about it (San Francisco truly has become the "city of and for the homeless"). Hey, here's where Giuliani comes into play again: I'm told he solved the homeless problem in NYC.

I also hope to see that **Mark Leno** becomes the next assembly member from District 13. He's one of the finest, most decent guys in politics.

Hopefully, I can watch the 49ers make it all the way to the Super Bowl.

I also hope to find my good friend **Bryan** a new boyfriend (he's at the desperate point, guys,

and a good dude he is, too).

I've got to get to church more often to pray for the health of a couple of good friends who are very ill.

Finally, I hope there is a cure for AIDS in 2002.

Politics and people

Last month San Francisco voters passed a ballot measure that sets up a seven-member independent Election Commission to set city policy. Last week, a Board of Supervisors committee tapped a federal bureaucrat, **Thomas**

Schulz, a 35-year veteran of the General Accounting Office as the committee's first member; others will be appointed by the mayor, city attorney, and district attorney.

Talk around City Hall has it that both City

Treasurer **Susan Leal**, who will be sworn into another term on January 7, and City Attorney-elect **Dennis Herrera**, who will take office the next day, are already being seen as future political "stars" of the Democratic Party in California. Both are good people, incidentally.

Is **Bevan Duffy** lining up important backers for a run for supe in the 8th District? BART Director **Tom Radulovich** reportedly is also interested in the 8th District seat currently held by **Mark Leno**.

The latest on Marin's infamous "Taliban Boy" **John Walker**: Bush administration officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, are now saying there is growing sentiment among top officials that Walker, 20, will probably face at least one charge carrying the death penalty. That doesn't mean, however, that a charge means conviction.

A look at the long-forgotten cases of **Patty Hearst** and **O.J. Simpson** shows that you can rob a bank or commit murder and a good lawyer can get you off. Walker has **Jim Brosnahan**, one of the best, and the White House has confirmed it has already been in touch with Brosnahan. What to do with this guy? How about trying him in front of a jury made up of citizens of New York City. Then again, I would suggest the guy is really a nonentity, so interview him, see what (if anything) he really knows, fix his wounds, then return him to his Taliban friends and let him share in whatever fate awaits them. Have you looked at your passport recently? It clearly states that if you in any way aid and abet any foreign power in a military fashion against the issuing country you then will lose your citizenship and can be tried as an enemy. Case closed.

A Massachusetts group, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, is asking the state's high court to throw out laws against sodomy that have been on the books for 350 years. The group argues in a lawsuit that the laws violate privacy rights; the high court has not said when it will rule.

Finally, just want to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy New Year's. All of you, especially **Jay "Ethyl" Noonan**, as well as **Ron, Bruce, Mikey**, and the good guys at Reflection's bar on Polk Street. 2001 hasn't been the best of years, but, God willing, 2002 will be better—much better. Happy New Year's everyone. ▼



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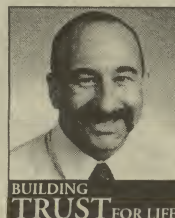
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Sensationalist trans articles worth examining

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

It fit were for me to say who gets nice holiday gifts, and who gets a lump of coal, I know what I'd be putting in the stocking of the *San Francisco Examiner*.

In the middle of the month, they published two pieces on transgendered people. Individually, neither piece — one article and one guest opinion — would make the top of my charts. Put together, I began to wonder what the *Examiner* was trying to say.

It actually seems to be part of a trend on the part of the paper, with a few other articles in its short tenure, including a travel piece touting the popularity of Thailand as both a popular spot for transsexual surgeries and home of a transvestite beauty pageant. A fully illustrated article, of course.

In the most recent piece, the *Examiner* opted to take on female-to-male (FTM) individuals — an interesting tack, given that it is usually male-to-females that get all the bad press. That doesn't excuse it.

From the headline on, we see an article focusing on how frightfully exotic it is to be an FTM. We hear about a scene at one woman's wedding, where her brother — once her sister — is outed, presumably so he'll be forced to stand with the women in the photos

rather than the other men.

Then we go into an article that seems to view FTMs, and the growing visibility of same, as some sort of fad that may someday be regretted.

I am sure that most of you reading this column know all too well what it is like to be assumed to be "in a phase," or simply bowing to trends. I also suspect that you are wise enough to spot the difference between fads and invasive surgical procedures.

I sensed a feeling that the article was trying to paint the places that are treating FTMs are somehow working outside the law, given their occasional disregard for the Harry Benjamin Standards of Care. The very fact that they are standards — not laws or rules — should help to explain why they are occasionally disregarded. I think it is easy enough to realize that the standards are followed more often than not, but the idea that "one size does not fit all" is part of the very nature of being transgendered.

We need not even get into the line in the article about buxom robots. No, I'm not sure what I meant, either. Instead, I'd like to get into the second of these recent pieces in the *Examiner*. This is a letter, published as a full-fledged

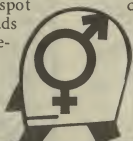
opinion piece.

For little more than a poison pen letter, it was quite tasteful. In it, the author starts by telling us about how wonderful it is to be a transsexual in 2001, and how there is so much out there to help one switch genders. I have no disagreement with that, except to note that hormone treatments have been around for several decades now, and that reassignment surgeries have been performed since the early 1930s. Not that I'd want one of those early procedures.

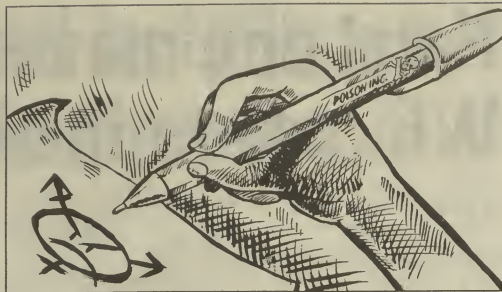
What I do find fault with is her disdain for those "vulgar" transsexual folks who opt to be activists. I note that she does not use the word transgender, so I'll not put that term in her mouth.

You see, it is some of those vulgar activists, from Barbara Richards petitioning for a gender change on her California birth records way back in 1941, through the veterans of Stonewall, and those who are still working on transgender rights issues today, that allow her to enjoy life as a quiet transsexual in the upper crust of local society.

I am sure that it must be nice for her to move within opera circles, and enjoy her pet horse in Woodside. Yet I wonder if she



Transmissions



Christine Smith

would be so happy to be out in the Tenderloin, or otherwise having to scrape along in order to make it in such a "great time to be a transsexual?" Yes, I find it hard to have sympathy for her, when she speaks of her "socially prominent" upbringing while looking down her nose at those who are getting upset simply because we are being looked down at.

I am glad she has had such an easy time of it, though: I can take pride that the work of myself and others has helped make her transition so much easier. I'll not hold my breath for a thank you card, though.

There is one strong point that she has, and I want to make sure it's noted.

One of her main desires, once you dig past the disdain she displays for gays and out transsexuals, is that the media should focus on the success stories. I agree. Moreover, I would like the media to get past the sensationalism that so often permeates stories on transgendered people.

Like the sensationalism in the other two articles I mentioned.

I am a product of my generation, and often end up talking about television. In that medium, one can always tell when it is a "sweeps" month by looking for an increase in transgender storylines. The sensational stories get the ratings, and right now transgenderism is hot.

Which make me wonder if our newest local paper is looking to bolster sagging readership by appealing to the same mindset that makes the *Jerry Springer Show* popular.

For that, I offer them my holiday gift. A lump of coal. It will help keep them warm on those chilly nights, as they ponder what is left of their integrity, lost amid a sea of lurid headlines and transgender articles designed only to tantalize. ▼

Gwen Smith might have to start awarding "Lumpies" on an annual basis. You can spot her on the Web at www.gwensmith.com or in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo."

2001 in review

End of the (long, expensive) road

by Katie Szymanski

Charities were forever changed after the attacks of September 11, 2001. And while problems had already surfaced for the California AIDS Ride, it didn't help that the for-profit event had a reputation for giving less than an ideal percentage of its proceeds to benefiting causes during a time when many nonprofits were scrambling to make every donation dollar count.

And so began the month of October as rumored "negotiations" were under way between Pallotta Teamworks (the producers of California AIDS Ride) and the ride's beneficiaries, the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center. Dan Pallotta, founder of Pallotta Teamworks, launched his first venture, California AIDS Ride, in 1994, with SFAF and the L.A. Center as the main beneficiaries. But increasing community concerns about profits over charity, and a recent disagreement about over-budget invoices submitted by Pallotta, caused the agencies to re-evaluate their contracts.

"We are in the process of ongoing negotiations about the contract for the ride. There are more points of difference between us and Pallotta than there have been in the past," Gustavo Suárez, director of communications for the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, told the *Bay Area Reporter* on October 4.

The divergent points of view, according to Suárez, included "cost containment, and cost of fundraising, among other issues."

While he could not comment on an exact dollar amount, Suárez confirmed that after the most recent AIDS Ride in June, Pallotta Teamworks presented invoices to SFAF that were "in excess of approved budget limits."

The L.A. Center was less inclined to hint at a controversy, stating only that contract negotiations happen with every event. And Suárez told the *B.A.R.* that it was "way too early" to speculate on Pallotta's future with SFAF.

But less than two weeks later, both SFAF and the center announced that they had severed ties with Pallotta and would instead produce their own event, a bicycle charity ride entitled "AIDS/Life-Cycle." The event's Web site was already up and running, recruitment had begun, and a toll-free informational number was about to be launched.

"The parties failed to reach agreement on several important issues," said a statement issued by SFAF and the center, "including reasonable financial controls for PTW production expenses, PTW cross promotion and marketing strategies (Pallotta Team Works reportedly used AIDS Ride budget funds to promote its other events), and a reasonable expense budget for the proposed 2002 event given significant unapproved budget overruns by PTW

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Fatal dog mauling of Diane Whipple topped local news

by Ed Walsh

The biggest ongoing story dominating local headlines before September 11 was undoubtedly the fatal dog mauling of St. Mary's College lacrosse coach Diane Whipple. Beyond the horrific headlines and the story's bizarre twists and turns, the case resulted in a landmark judicial ruling in support of same-sex partners and helped pass Assembly Bill 25 into law. The measure grants same-sex couples many of the same benefits previously given only to married couples.

Just after the January 26 attack, media reports described Whipple's partner of seven years, Sharon Smith, as Whipple's roommate. Citing privacy concerns, a close friend of Whipple's asked the *Bay Area Reporter* to hold back reporting that Whipple was gay or that she was Smith's partner.

The media replaced "roommate" with "partner" after Smith publicly expressed her love for Whipple during a memorial Mass on February 1. The following week, Smith granted several interviews in which she openly discussed her committed relationship with Whipple.

On January 31, a day before Whipple's memorial Mass, the dogs' husband-wife caretakers, Robert Noel and Marjorie Knoller, wrote an 18-page letter to District Attorney Terence Hallinan which turned out to be a public relations nightmare for the at-

torney couple. The letter suggested that the attack may have been triggered as a result of Whipple wearing a pheromone-based scent or that she may have been taking steroids. The couple also wrote that Whipple could have easily saved her life by entering her apartment and shutting the door just after Bane, the male dog that instigated the attack, first lunged at her.

Whipple's friends and family angrily denounced the letter. Smith told reporters that she was disgusted that Noel and Knoller, her next door neighbors, expressed no remorse for what happened. Smith said she considered the attack on Whipple murder and said she wanted the couple held responsible.

Noel and Knoller told the B.A.R. that they were sorry for what happened. They said they didn't express remorse directly to Smith because they didn't believe she would be receptive to it after she called them murderers.

In early February, the case took another bizarre twist when it was revealed that Noel and Knoller had adopted Pelican Bay Prison inmate, Paul Schneider. Prison officials said Schneider is a member of the Aryan Brotherhood prison gang. Schneider had been a witness for one of the couple's cases. Noel and Knoller said they were impressed with his integrity. Schneider has maintained that he and his cellmate, Dale Bretches, are the legal owners of Bane as well as Hera, the female dog in-

involved in the attack.

More damaging information surfaced against the couple during a packed City Hall hearing on February 13 to decide the fate of Hera. (Bane was put down just after the incident.) Knoller maintains that Hera may have tugged at Whipple's clothing during the attack but never bit her.

Several people testified during the hearing of previous run-ins with the dogs. When given the opportunity to speak, Noel said that everyone who spoke out against the dogs was either lying or grossly exaggerating. His strongest denial was over a neighbor who claimed that one of the dogs bit him. Noel said that the neighbor wasn't bitten at all but had bumped into an elevator door handle as he rushed to leave the building.

The police sergeant who oversaw the hearing later ordered Hera destroyed. The dog's fate has been tied up in court appeals and now rest with the California Supreme Court, which has yet to decide whether to hear the matter.

On March 12, Smith filed a wrongful death lawsuit against Noel and Knoller. Smith's suit was followed a month later by a wrongful death suit from Whipple's mother, Pamela Whipple-Kelly.

At the time of Whipple's death, state law only allowed surviving partners in a married relationship the right to sue. Smith's suit made legal history on July 27 when San

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Diane Whipple and Sharon Smith in an undated photo

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Alleged killer's SF visit made headlines

by Ed Walsh

He was likened to Andrew Cunanan, the gay serial killer who murdered Gianni Versace in July 1997. When the news broke last August that Adam Ezerski, 19, was in San Francisco and tried to kill a gay man here, it quickly made headlines around the country. The case was featured twice on Fox's *America's Most Wanted* show.

Police suspected Ezerski of killing two gay men in Florida in July before running away to San Francisco. Determined not to repeat the mistakes of the Cunanan case, police and the FBI actively reached out to the LGBT press and community groups.

After his alleged attack on a gay man in San Francisco on August 14, Ezerski was on the run again. He met up with San Franciscan Troy Young, 37, who helped him avoid arrest. The pair headed east and eventually wound up in Reno where they were arrested three days later.

Young was on parole for a drug crime and was sent back to state prison. Ezerski was extradited to Fort Lauderdale where he will stand trial for killing and robbing Anthony Martilotto, 39. Police initially suspected Ezerski in the murder of South Florida resident



A blond Adam Ezerski

Irving Sicherer, 76, but they have since cleared him in that case.

In an exclusive interview with the *Bay Area Reporter*, Ezerski blasted the police and media for demonizing him.

"I'm not the homicidal murderer like they make me out to be," he said.

Ezerski told the B.A.R. he killed Martilotto but he said he acted in self-defense to prevent a sexual assault. Ezerski said that Martilotto kept him in a locked hotel room and he believed his life was in danger. Police say Martilotto had been strangled.

Ezerski told the B.A.R. that he's gay, that he wanted to get caught, and got by in San Francisco working as a prostitute. He claimed he

never attacked a man in San Francisco, but simply was involved in a fight after he didn't get paid for sex.

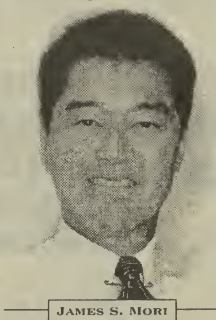
Ezerski said that while he was in San Francisco, federal park police questioned him after he was found sleeping in Martilotto's car in Fort Mason Park. Although at the time he was wanted for murdering Martilotto and Sicherer, his name apparently didn't raise any red flags when the officers ran his license and the car's registration. On another occasion, Ezerski said that he walked by and smiled at two FBI agents who were in front of Young's apartment. Ezerski had recently dyed his hair blond and that apparently was enough to quell suspicion.

Last month, a private detective hired by the public defender's office in Fort Lauderdale came to San Francisco to investigate the case. The detective talked to a number of people in the Bay Area, including Young, who is in San Quentin State Prison.

In correspondence with the B.A.R., Young said he still strongly supports Ezerski. He said he is able to keep in touch with him through letters.

No trial date has been set yet. Ezerski's attorney told the B.A.R. that the case has a high priority in the public defender's office because it's potentially a death penalty case. ▼

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AB25: A long time coming

by Katie Szymanski

When Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) authored and pushed through the state's landmark domestic partnership registry of 1999, she always knew it would act as a bank, so to speak, to which lawmakers could add more benefits over time.

Lawmakers did just that in 2001, with Migden's AB25. The groundbreaking law, which to date is the most comprehensive same-sex benefits package outside of Vermont's civil unions, was a few years in the making. It began as a concept, but was delayed after the registry took effect in 2000, when Governor Gray Davis told insiders that he would not sign any more gay-related bills. But as that year came to a close, AB25 saw the light of day, introduced by Migden on December 4, 2000 with the intention of getting it passed this year.

From the beginning, AB25 was met with optimism, despite its historic offerings: the right for couples to make medical decisions for each other, the right to sue for the wrongful death of a lover, the right to inherit property, the right to use sick leave to care for a domestic partner. The bill gave teeth to California's statewide domestic partnership registry, which had been largely symbolic but ensured hospital visitation and health benefits for partners of state employees. Advocates said they were simply following up on Davis's campaign statements of his support



Gov. Gray Davis signs AB25 in October as Assemblywoman Carole Migden, right, and other LGBT leaders look on.

for such rights, and for a variety of tragic and triumphant reasons, the timing proved to be perfect.

No sooner had AB25 hit the Legislature than San Francisco resident, lacrosse coach, and lesbian Diane Whipple was brutally mauled to death on January 26 in the hallway of her apartment building by two attack dogs that lived on her floor. [See related story.] Suddenly, lawmakers and citizens alike had a personalized example of inequality for gay couples, as Whipple's surviving partner Sharon Smith was forced to prove her relationship in order to

sue the dogs' guardians for Whipple's death. Throughout the winter months, Smith accompanied Migden to several state hearings as a spokesperson for the necessity of AB25 (although a judge later ruled that she should have the right to sue for wrongful death regardless of existing laws).

Not even the Christian right could hamper the bill's glide through the legislative process.

"It's an end-run around the voters, it's an end-run around marriage," Randy Thomasson, executive director of the Campaign for California Families, told reporters in March.

Thomasson and other opponents said that the bill effectively undermined Proposition 22, the ballot initiative limiting marriage to a man and a woman, approved by 62 percent of the voters last year.

But LGBT advocates reminded the public that Proposition 22's proponents had long argued that the "pro-family" initiative was not

about discrimination or denying rights or domestic partnership. In fact, the pro-22 campaign had to distance itself from anti-gay positions on domestic partnership in order to lure moderate voters who favored many gay rights but preferred that the word "marriage" be reserved for opposite sex couples.

The springtime saw public protests by a handful of conservatives, but with little consequence. Organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union, California Alliance for Pride and Equality, and Lambda Letters Project stepped up their outreach and gathered tens of thousands of signatures in support of the rights. AB25 sailed through an Assembly amendment process, passing out of committees in April and May. The Legislature took a break in the summer, reconvening in August. Nobody could have guessed the events to come in the following month.

The terrorist attacks of Sep-

tember 11 stunned everyone, to say the least. But they also helped to shed light on the ridiculous nature of anti-gay Christians (thanks to the Reverends Jerry Falwell and Pat Robinson blaming the tragedy on gays and others); the heroic nature of many gay Americans (as United Flight 93's Mark Bingham proved); and the inequalities faced by surviving partners of gay victims. The state Senate passed AB25 on September 10. Any excitement or objection was quickly swallowed from the spotlight by the next day's turmoil. The day after the attacks, enough California assemblymembers gave their ayes to pass AB25 on September 12. Disgust and distraction with the world again overshadowed the decision, and LGBT citizens had to sit back and wait for the governor's signature.

The historic moment came on Sunday, October 14, 2001, when Davis, as expected, signed the most extensive domestic partnership bill in the country.

Rights granted to registered partners include many that are automatic with marriage, like the ability to receive health insurance, file for disability on each other's behalf, act as a conservator, and relocate with a partner without losing unemployment benefits. The law applies to same-sex couples as well as opposite-sex couples where one or both partners is over the age of 62. Since its passage, the law has also been used to alleviate public concern over a recent court decision not to recognize second-parent adoptions (AB25 provides for step-parent adoptions of children).

But the victory, of course, runs even deeper than a handful of essential legal protections.

"This new law sends a message across the nation that California celebrates the dignity and diversity of all people, including same-sex couples," Migden said at the bill's signing, this time to well-deserved fanfare. ▼



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Transgender equality affirmed at City Hall

by Katie Szymanski

It was a done deal, or so it seemed until all the years spent educating officials were suddenly lost on a vocal city supervisor in April 2001. With the blink of an eye, a measure authored by Supervisor Mark Leno to secure necessary medical benefits for transgender city employees went from an unspoken shoe-in to a controversial debate that supplied ignorant people with an excuse to speak against a population's basic rights.

To be sure, the fact that the city eventually passed such benefits - which includes coverage of sexual reassignment surgeries and hormones - remains a mystery to those who have not taken the time to learn that the process for transitioning is not something someone simply "wants to do." Most transsexuals (the only section of the transgender population covered by these benefits, incidentally) must endure a lifetime of feeling "wrong," and then enter therapy for a specified minimum amount of time before they are



Activists applauded after the Board of Supervisors voted to allow medical benefits for transgender city workers.

even allowed to consider taking hormones. According to the standards of care popular nationwide and adopted as a model for the city benefits, it is only after six months to a year that each procedure is okayed by a supervising therapist. Take this process and add another year's wait and you have the city law, hardly a vehicle for whimsical decisions that leave

taxpayers footing a frivolous cost.

Community activists packaged these lessons - adding details such as the fact that hormones and surgeries for transsexuals have been deemed a medical necessity and often are a matter of life and death - and taught them step by step, panel by panel, committee by committee for years until the city's

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AIDS reaches milestone in 2001

compiled by Cynthia Laird

What started out as a brief mention of gay men dying in Los Angeles in a Centers of Disease Control and Prevention publication 20 years ago has transformed the gay community in many ways, notably the deaths of thousands over the years from complications related to AIDS.

The world marked the 20th anniversary of the deadly virus in early June. Cities from coast to coast held events commemorating the tragic milestone and newspapers rolled out special sections on various aspects of the disease and the response to it. In the past two decades, much has been learned about AIDS and new medications have resulted in many people living longer lives. But the downsides are evident as new infections in this country are on the rise and the sad reality that the range of HIV/AIDS drugs do not work for everyone.

San Francisco officials marked the anniversary with several events recalling how the city stepped up to the plate in the 1980s, as the gay community established charitable organizations to help their sick and dying friends and lovers. Today, many of those groups are still serving clients.

Activism was taken to a whole new level 20 years ago, and has had a lasting impact. Other health-related groups, such as women living with breast cancer, have taken a page from those early AIDS activists in demanding speedier approval of potentially life-saving drugs, and increased federal funding for research and treatment.

Katz interview

Openly gay San Francisco Health Director Dr. Mitchell Katz gave an exclusive interview to the *Bay Area Reporter* in May, recalling the history of the epidemic.

Katz traced the history of AIDS: "People were infected in San Francisco as early as 1978. By 1981 there were documented cases at San Francisco General of these weird opportunistic cases that no one had ever seen before in healthy young men."

"By about 1982, there was an understanding on the street that there was this illness, that it was occurring in gay men, and the strong suspicion in the community itself that it was somehow related to sex."

"The earliest prevention messages, which were not very good, were: be sure that your partner was healthy, and limit the number of partners that you have."

"So the earliest bad advice was based on the findings that some people had outrageous numbers of partners – and I say that with some admiration – they were people who were enjoying a healthy sex life; there was no reason that they shouldn't have had thousands of partners, at that time."

But, said Katz, as with any infectious disease, as HIV became more common, people started to realize in 1984-1985 that the number of partners didn't matter as much as the sexual acts: "Pretty early on, the analysis was showing that it was anal intercourse that was the strongest [factor], and every single study showed the same thing."

Even now, he sees a kind of squeamishness, especially among doctors, about using even clinical



Staff at the Stop AIDS Project held a "die-in" in June to call attention AIDS at 20.

terms like insertive or receptive anal intercourse "that doesn't help prevention one bit..."

"Every time I go to a prevention conference I try to say, and frankly I feel like I'm one of the few people who ever says it, that in San Francisco at this time, if you eliminate unprotected receptive anal intercourse by HIV-negative men when having sex with HIV-positive men, you would eliminate at least 95 percent of the seroconversions among men who have sex with men [MSMs], everything else being equal."

By 1985, the HIV antibody test had been developed and was being offered in San Francisco via the AIDS Health Project.

"It was then," noted Katz, "that people learned this amazing fact – that half of gay men in San Francisco living in the neighborhoods with the largest populations of gay men were infected. This was astounding."

The professional is public is personal

And so were the consequences. Katz turned personal.

"Almost all our friends and colleagues who found out they were infected, in the mid-1980s, got sick in the early 1990s. Certainly for me that was the worst time."

"Those years in the late 1980s and early 1990s were absolutely miserable, and I actually feel that, as a person, putting aside everything else, that time was so hard for me, that there was a part of me that closed down. There was so much sadness, so many people dying, what was strange for me, looking back on the closed-down part, is I really didn't get closed down in the sense that I was unable to experience the sadness. It was that I was unable to really experience any joy. And I sort of feel like, it's only recently that my own ability to enjoy life has returned."

In what way, he was asked, has the personal sadness affected Katz's public life?

"I never saw being a doctor and a public health official as separate. With me, it was one life, always, ... a lot of people in San Francisco cared and were working in public health and doing great things around HIV, I had to note

that I was one of the few openly gay men during that time. There were a few others, [UCSF physician] Donald Abrams, but most of the people were straight doctors. You know, that's fine with me, you don't have to be gay or anything to understand the illness."

"But the fundamental difference was that all of my friends were sick. And dying. And their friends [of straight doctors] were not. And they were themselves not at risk, while I felt myself very much to be at risk."

"So in those times I was mak-

ing the same kinds of tradeoffs in my personal sexual life as everybody else was ... I remember sort of profoundly feeling that if I became infected, or if I was infected, that I would die of AIDS, which is very different from now."

"When the people closest to me were sick, or dying, my clinical practice was people who were sick and dying, my public health work was trying to come up with a coherent public health response to this unrelenting epidemic, which wasn't really very responsive in some ways to public

health."

Other developments

In the months that followed the June anniversary, various local HIV prevention experts started going public about the future of prevention. Dr. Tom Coates, director of the AIDS Research Institute at the University of California, San Francisco, used a World AIDS Day interview with Gay.com to suggest that traditional prevention programs weren't working and that perhaps, prevention programs should be scrapped.

"Maybe we should just make lots of condoms available, keep informing people where the STD centers are and just accept that every year there will be a certain percentage of people who will get HIV," Coates said in the interview.

Coates's comments were intended to spark a public debate, he said, but so far, community reaction has been largely nonexistent. In the aftermath of September 11 and the recession, many HIV/AIDS organizations have seen donations plummet, and some have even started instituting layoffs.

As the year closes, however, people in San Francisco are continuing to become infected, with health officials estimating that just over 700 people will seroconvert this year.

Internationally, the picture is grim, thousands continue to become infected in African nations, and South African President Thabo Mbeki continues flirting with AIDS dissidents who claim that HIV does not cause AIDS. A recent court ruling determined that the government should provide AIDS drugs to pregnant women in an effort to cut down mother-to-child transmission, but the government announced it would appeal that decision. ▼

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Walker's father

◀ page 1

Nor was I ever in a gay relationship with him," Jones, former owner of the Sutro Baths, told Corkery.

Corkery first broke the news of Lindh's sexuality in his column on December 18. In it, he suggested Lindh's sexual orientation may have caused his son to leave the country to study Islam in Pakistan.

"When Frank Lindh left his family in 1997, it was to move in with a male companion," Corkery reported. "... Family friends say the men lived as a gay couple ... Sources close to the family say the father's turn of life from married man to modern gay man startled and flustered the 16-year-old."

Two days later, B.A.R. political columnist Wayne Friday reported in his December 20 column that Lindh and his male companion attended a Metropolitan Community Church service in the Castro on December 9.

Corkery said Lindh has been trying to keep his "turn of life" out of the papers, noting, "Given the pummeling that the Walkers ... have taken from the national press over their wayward son, you can't blame the old man for wanting to suppress reporting on his sexuality."

The *San Francisco Chronicle* has yet to report on Lindh's homosexuality. Without disclosing the contents of Corkery's report, *Chronicle* columnist Rob Morse wrote that Corkery's column "took attacks on [Walker's] family to a new and disgusting level."

Last week, the feud between the columnists and Lindh's self-imposed closet with the media landed on various news Web sites — "A gay connection to the American Taliban?" asked the *Advocate*.com — and in the December 21 Page Six gossip column in the *New York Post*.

"The *San Francisco Examiner* has outed Taliban traitor John Walker's father, sparking a media feud with its arch rival, the Phil Bronstein-edited *Chronicle*. *Examiner* columnist P.J. Corkery wrote that Walker's dad, Frank Lindh, left his wife for a man, and intimated that it helped drive Walker into the arms of Osama

bin Laden," wrote the *Post*.

Has the mainstream media overlooked an important piece to this story by not disclosing Lindh being gay? Corkery told the B.A.R. he sees it as an "important piece to the puzzle" of what motivated Walker to leave the comfy confines of Marin for the desolate desert of Afghanistan.

"I had the info, I was comfortable with it, and I went ahead with it. He was out and we printed it," Corkery told the B.A.R. "To me outing Frank Lindh has the connotation I was trying to reveal a secret to the world that he didn't want known. San Francisco is full of people you could out, we don't do that."

"I printed the history of the family. I tried to do that by stressing whatever his orientation or sexual practices are it is immaterial. Except, this adds a piece to the puzzle."

On Jim Romenesko's MediaNews Web site, Corkery further defends his column and refutes Morse's attacks. "In printing this information, I did not attack the Walker family. That's Morse's interpretation based on his assumption that calling someone gay is an insult. It is not. By characterizing as disgusting the news that John Walker's father is gay, it is the *Chronicle* and Morse who have attacked the Walker family," stated Corkery.

Whether or not the father is gay, does having a gay father stand as a reasonable explanation for becoming a terrorist? Cathy Renna, media director for the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, said she sees it more as sensationalizing a story than adding relevant information.

"If you want to write a story about someone and talk about their sexual orientation, the best thing is to talk to that person," said Renna. "Of greater concern to me would be the part in this *Examiner* piece where he insinuates the fact John's father may have been gay turned him toward being a terrorist. I think it is very sensationalist."

Renna said she will be tracking how the story unfolds, and criticized the *New York Post* for turning the story into a homophobic attack.

[GLAAD was formed in 1985

to protest *Post*'s offensive and sensationalized stories about AIDS.]

"This is quintessential, homophobic, *New York Post* language. This overtone that not only the father is gay, but they have to paint the picture of [Walker] being driven into the arms of another man. And that man is Osama bin Laden. This is classic *New York Post* homophobia," said Renna.

The *Post*, however, wasn't the only New York tabloid writing about the apparent gay angle in the Walker case. The rival *New York Daily News* reported earlier this month on some of Walker's previous Internet postings between 1995-98, including some homophobic comments.

"He disapproved of a Muslim convention being held at a theme park owned by Disney, whose

productions are full of kaffir mythology, magic, occultism, sexism, racism, and homosexuality," the *Daily News* reported on December 11.

"To a poster asking for recognition that there are gay Muslims, he wrote: 'Please stop attempting to justify what you know is wrong,'" the paper noted.

For Felicia Park-Rogers, the daughter of a gay man, reports that having a gay father leads one to terrorism are troubling.

"In this situation, I think a parent's sexuality has no relevancy or bearing," said Park-Rogers. "I have met hundreds of people with gay parents and read numerous studies. There is no link between a parent's sexual orientation and a child's likelihood to be involved in a fundamentalist religion or fun-

damentalist movement."

Such reports only further inflame the debate surrounding children raised by gay parents, added Park-Rogers, executive director of COLAGE — Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere.

"I think it is an overall trend in our society that there is a deep concern for the welfare of people with gay parents and a deep concern of how having a gay parent will affect us," she said. "What I have learned from my experience knowing so many gay families, is that we are like any other family. And our parents' sexual orientation has little to no bearing on the decisions we may make as an adult. John Walker has made some unfortunate decisions, but they are just not connected to his father's sexual orientation." ▼

Terror attacks

◀ page 1

service in September. While McCain had only met Bingham briefly during his presidential campaign last year, he recognized the heroics of Bingham and others aboard the doomed flight that may have prevented the airplane from reaching its intended target, widely believed to be the U.S. Capitol.

Another gay Bay Area victim was Jeffrey Collman, who was a flight attendant for American Airlines and was aboard Flight 11 when it crashed into the World Trade Center. He leaves behind his longtime partner, Novato resident Keith Brackowski.

Immediately following the attacks, gays and others called for tolerance for those of Middle Eastern descent and Muslims. A string of violent incidents — and at least one death — were reported just after September 11. President Bush went out of his way to explain to the country and the world that the fight was against terrorism, not Islam.

Life post-September 11 has provided many challenges. The anthrax scare that erupted in October forced public health officials to admit that they didn't have all the answers to the disease that was spreading via the mail and that the country's public health infrastructure was woefully out of date. That wasn't news to those affected by HIV/AIDS or scientists working in the field. It was only after an elderly Connecticut woman died of inhalation anthrax that the director

of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dr. Jeffrey Koplan, suggested on December 3 that people with compromised immune services might want someone else to open their letters.

And there is the lingering question of whether same-sex survivors will get federal financial assistance on par with their heterosexual counterparts. A special master appointed by Attorney General John Ashcroft released some information just before Christmas, and some officials — notably in New York — have called for equal treatment of those gays and lesbians who lost loved ones.

Charities, including the American Red Cross, have finally responded to the issue and that organization developed a written policy pledging fair treatment of gay and lesbian families suffering from the loss of a loved one.

On the military front, gays and lesbians serving in the armed forces continue to be hamstrung by the failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. While there was some hope initially that gays and lesbians serving in the military would be prevented from being discharged under "stop-loss" orders, that hope was dashed when Pentagon officials clarified the order and said that gays and lesbians were still bound by DADT. Despite the need for good personnel, the military remains committed to a discriminatory policy that helps no one and only fuels harassment of those it targets.

And the military leaders continued to do little to prevent the

harassment. Shortly after military action started on October 7, the Associated Press released a photo of a bomb aboard the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise. "HIGH JACK [sic] THIS FAGS," was the message scrawled on the weapon. Military brass denounced the anti-gay message after gay and lesbian organizations unleashed their anger, pointing out that the U.S. Navy would never allow racial epithets or derogatory graffiti based on religion or gender to be scrawled on American property.

The aftermath of September 11 also saw the return of peace activists, including many queer progressives. Unlike during the Vietnam era, however, the marches generated little support from most Americans, and many events, even in the Bay Area, included counter-protesters waving American flags. While many in the community support President Bush, there are serious questions over the loss of civil liberties in policies adopted by the president, Ashcroft, and others. Congress rushed through a tough new PATRIOT Act and hundreds of men remained detained by the government.

Now, some 100 days after September 11, people are starting to go about their lives, but nothing is normal. From those laid off due to the recession and the downturn in tourism and travel as a result of the attacks to those who lost loved ones to those who just go about their daily lives, that Tuesday morning in September is forever embedded in our minds.

And nothing will be the same. ▼

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AIDS Ride

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during the 2001 event."

Pallotta Teamworks, which owns the trademarked California AIDS Ride event, still planned to go ahead with its annual ride, but was in search of a new beneficiary.

While SFAF's Suárez had tried to remain diplomatic in talking with the media, he now was more forthcoming with the charities' problems with Pallotta, disclosing that the most recent AIDS Ride in June 2001 netted just 50 percent of monies earned for the beneficiaries. But beyond monetary concerns was the general spirit of the event, a tone that increasingly conflicted with what the community organizations wished to promote.

What angered Suárez most recently, he said, was an appearance in August by Pallotta President Steve Bennett on Minnesota Public Radio "where he basically said 'the organizations need the money so much that they'll take whatever we give them.'"

"To us, that view is not acceptable," said Suárez. "It's their prerogative to pursue their business

interests, but it's our prerogative to go a separate way."

Pallotta events have been described as incredibly slick productions, complete with packaged messages of hope and spirituality that are responsible for enticing the donors who ride or walk each year. Like its slogan, "Impossible" suggests, California AIDS Ride tended to focus on individual achievement, said Suárez, and SFAF and the center instead wanted to promote community.

But the real kicker, according to Suárez, came during a conference call at the beginning of the month. When it became apparent that negotiations would not work out, Pallotta's Bennett "threatened that they would put all their resources toward trying to shut down our event," said Suárez.

Those threats weren't just the anger talking, as the month of December proved. Pallotta did go ahead and sign on a new beneficiary, AIDS Project Los Angeles, and continued to plan for California AIDS Ride. But apparently AIDS/LifeCycle was proving to be a much more competing force than Pallotta had imagined. Pallotta took SFAF and the center to court

in an effort to halt the charities' bike ride, planned for May 2002.

The lawsuit, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, punctuates Pallotta's interests of profits over charity, according to AIDS/LifeCycle organizers. But Pallotta's Bennett told the B.A.R. that the lawsuit to stop AIDS/LifeCycle is necessary in order for the competing California AIDS Ride to continue to thrive. AIDS/LifeCycle is scheduled for May 13-19, 2002, while California AIDS Ride, now benefiting AIDS Project Los Angeles, will take place June 2-8.

Bennett said the lawsuit was justified because of a contractual clause that stated, "AIDS Ride bike-a-thon event is an original concept by Pallotta and the center and SFAF shall not use or exploit such concepts at any time regardless of termination of this agreement without the express written consent of Pallotta."

SFAF's Suárez dismissed this clause as too broad, explaining, "No one's got the patent on bake sales and certainly there is no patent on bike-a-thons. Bike fundraising events, even for AIDS, existed before California AIDS Ride."

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LGBT newsmakers in 2001

compiled by Cynthia Laird

Throughout the year, LGBT people continued to make news in the Bay Area. Following are snapshots of some of the people and events that made headlines in 2001.

January

Openly gay San Francisco school board member **Mark Sanchez** announced he was switching his political party affiliation from Democratic to Green. "I'm really happy to be Green," Sanchez said. "I think I've always been Green and I think it's great to come out of the closet in that way."

San Jose's openly gay **Ken Yeager** was sworn in as a member of the City Council on January 5.

Stop AIDS Project Executive Director **Timothy Leifield** announced his resignation. Interim director **Andrew Brother Elk** took over for most of the year. Currently, **Steve Gibson** and **Darlene Weide** run the HIV prevention organization.

Lesbian activist **Laurie McBride** became chief of staff to San Francisco Assemblyman **Kevin Shelley** (D). Shelley, prevented from seeking re-election, is now running for secretary of state. McBride has a long history of political work, having served as director of the now-defunct Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality.



Linda Evans

Longtime political prisoner **Linda Evans** was granted clemency by President **Bill Clinton** in one of his last acts in office on January 20. Evans was arrested in 1970 for conspiracy for her part in coordinating a national action. Following Clinton's action, she was paroled to the Bay Area.

February

Former Ambassador to Luxembourg **James C. Hormel**



Former Ambassador James Hormel

spoke out against **John Ashcroft's** nomination to the post of U.S. attorney general. At a news conference during the heated debate over Ashcroft's nomination, Hormel reiterated his belief that Ashcroft, a former senator from Missouri, opposed his 1997 nomination to the diplomatic post solely because he is openly gay.



Commissioner Theresa Sparks

Theresa Sparks became the first openly transgender person to serve on San Francisco's Human Rights Commission when she was appointed to the post by Mayor **Willie Brown**. Sparks said one of her top priorities will be to continue to explore queer economic empowerment and transgender unemployment, topics that her colleagues on the commission began to vigorously pursue a few years ago. In a recent study, noted Sparks, 70 percent of the nation's transgender people were underemployed.

March

The coronation of Empress XXXVI **Chablis** and Emperor XXIX A.N. **Tom Basch** was held March 3 at the Imperial Millennium Ball in San Francisco.

San Francisco's **Houston Daventport** was named Mr. San Francisco Leather 2001 and competed in the International Mr. Leather contest in Chicago.

AIDS activists saw red when city AIDS czar **Mike Shriver** wanted to drape City Hall in a huge red ribbon for the 20th anniversary of AIDS in June. The plan never got off the ground.

On March 22, a new senior center was opened at Trinity Episcopal Church in honor of gay and civil rights pioneer **Dorwin Jones**. Jones, who died at the age of 66 on December 29, 2000, founded Meals on Wheels and other social and progressive organizations.

April

On April 1, the *Bay Area Reporter* celebrated its 30th anniversary with a party at Club Rendez-Vous on Polk Street. Publisher **Bob Ross** and his friend **Paul Bentley** started the paper in April 1971. Initially the newspaper was distributed in gay bars in San Francisco and the East Bay; today the paper is available throughout the Bay Area and in cities across the country. Bentley later left the venture but Ross continues to serve as publisher. About 100 people attended the anniversary party, including Mayor Brown, Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, Supervisor **Mark Leno**, and Empress XXX **Donna Sachet**.

The AIDS Memorial Quilt left San Francisco and headed to Atlanta. The quilt, a collection of more than 40,000 panels from around the world, was moved because the Names Project Foundation wanted it closer to Washington, D.C.

Daddy's bar owner and long-time AIDS fundraiser **Philip Turner** died on April 4 after a long battle with bacterial pneumonia. He was 49. The leather community and friends turned out in force for a street party celebrating his life that was held in the Castro.

Ellen LaPointe was named executive director of Project Inform, replacing **Avi Rose**.

Norman Robinson was named executive director of the National AIDS Memorial Grove, replacing **Thom Weyand**.

Assemblywoman **Carole Migden**, activist **Duane Cramer**, Supervisor **Mark Leno**, sexologist Dr. **Carol Queen**, and leatherwoman "Mama" **Sandy Reinhardt** were named grand marshals for the 2001 San Francisco Pride Parade.



Sup. Court Judge Charles Haines

Veteran prosecutor **Charles F. "Chuck" Haines** was appointed as a judge to the San Francisco Superior Court by Governor **Gray Davis**. The openly gay Haines was on vacation when the appointment was announced on April 23, but colleagues, including District Attorney **Terence Hallinan** were "delighted" with the decision. Haines filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge **William Cahill**.

May

Longtime gay activist **Harry Hay** and former Ambassador **James C. Hormel** were honored at the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club's annual dinner.

Tom Vindeed, a longtime community leader who served on the board of the Godfather Service Fund and stepped in to save the Gay Softball League, died Monday, May 14 at Kaiser Hospital in San Francisco. He was 62.

Hundreds of area residents took part in the annual AIDS Candlelight Vigil held May 20.

Project Open Hand's East Bay kitchen opened on May 18.

June

Divas **RuPaul** rocked San Jose's gay Pride festival.

The LGBT community in Santa Cruz held its 27th annual Queer Pride March and Rally.

Supervisor **Mark Leno** for-

mally kicked off his campaign to replace **Carole Migden** in the state Assembly.

Some of the older members of the community were offended when the Stop AIDS Project held a "Geezers' Ball."

"While some have supported our choosing this name," wrote organizers **Paul Miller** and **Carlton Smith**, "others feel disappointed and angry because they believe that the word geezer is being used to diminish the value of older men in the lesbian, gay, bi, transgender community."

"This, in fact, is the exact opposite of our intention. As those who attend will discover, the Geezers' Ball is actually a celebration of men 40 and older who have lived through the AIDS epidemic as both long-term survivors and caregivers."

The National Center for Lesbian Rights, based in San Francisco, celebrated its 24th anniversary with its annual "Liberty Weekend" event that brought hundreds of lesbians to the city for a weekend of parties and other events.

San Francisco held its 31st annual Pride Parade and celebration. Entertainment included the B-52's. The theme "Queerific" generated some controversy within the community, but an estimated 1 million people attended the parade, which featured nearly 200 contingents, including, for the first time, a group of LGBT Muslims. The ninth annual Dyke March also took place, as well as the installation of the pink triangle on Twin Peaks.

A man who set himself on fire on Diamond Street and sustained third-degree burns over much of his body, died on Wednesday, June 27, according to San Francisco police.

One witness heard the man, later identified as **David McCormick**, 49, say he was "sorry to be doing this to the gay community," according to Sergeant **Jane Warner** of the San Francisco Patrol Special Police unit that covers the Castro. McCormick died on his birthday.

July

Following an impassioned plea for his life, openly gay prison rights activist **Brian Patrick Carmichael's** felony conviction on a battery charge was reduced to

a misdemeanor by Santa Clara County Superior Court Judge **Aiden E. Danner** on Monday, July 2. The reduction meant that Carmichael avoided a third strike conviction and Danner sentenced him to one year in jail; with time off for good behavior, Carmichael could be free in eight months.

Carmichael, who has been in the Santa Clara County jail since September 2000, waived his time already served. If he had been sentenced for a third strike, he could have faced 27 years to life in prison.

The case against Carmichael stemmed from an incident that occurred at San Jose International Airport in September 2000 as Carmichael stepped off an airplane. Police were waiting at the airport to talk to Carmichael, who while on the airplane in Dallas, got into an argument with a passenger who wanted the seat Carmichael had been told was reserved for his severely ill brother.

In the fall, Carmichael was released on bail, which he was entitled to do since the felony was reduced to a misdemeanor. He is appealing his conviction.

Former Supervisor **Harry Britt**, after a 10-year absence from local politics, formally announced that he was running against **Mark Leno** in the 13th Assembly District race.

Castro businessman **David Bach** took it upon himself to remove the Names Project's AIDS memorial bench in front of 2362 Market Street because homeless people were sleeping on it. He put the bench in the backyard of his

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OVER 20 YEARS SERVICE TO THE LESBIAN & GAY COMMUNITY

Newsmakers

◀ previous page

business.

Douglas Hudson took over as executive director at Bay Area Young Positives, an organization serving young people with HIV/AIDS.

Queer youth continued to be involved in activism and learned a lot at the sixth annual Young, Loud, and Proud conference.

Openly gay San Mateo County Supervisor **Rich Gordon** kicked off his re-election bid.

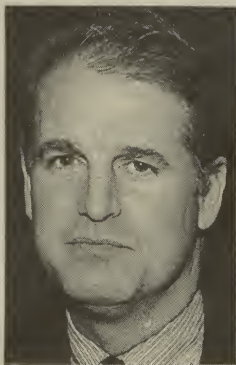
What could have been a happy ending to months of terror for a Northern California gay man never really had a chance at unfolding after his battle against wrongful imprisonment, declining health, and increasing depression. Former San Francisco and New York City resident **Chad Wyatt** was found dead in a Las Vegas hotel room on July 10, less than two months after being freed from the Siskiyou County Jail in Yreka, California. Friends have speculated that his death may have been a suicide. Wyatt was 34 years old.

August

The Gay Softball World Series celebrated its 25th anniversary and held its tournament in Sunnyside. An estimated 130 teams with 2,700 lesbian and gay softball players took part in the event.

Deluged by angry mail, Berkeley City Council member **Kriss Worthington** apologized on August 9 to visiting Japanese Scouts after their meeting at City Hall with Mayor **Shirley Dean** was canceled.

The openly gay councilman had earlier moved to block the meeting because it included U.S. Boy Scouts and leaders, citing the national scout organization's anti-gay policies. He said he told the mayor he might hold an informational picket with leaflets to "educate" the Japanese visitors if the



Kriss Worthington

sister-city exchange with Sakai, Japan, went forward at City Hall.

The 38 Japanese Scouts – boys and girls – were conveying greetings between mayors under a long-time biannual municipal exchange. Japanese scouting has no policy regarding gays.

September

Oakland held its fifth annual East Bay Pride celebration on September 1. Attendance was estimated at 10,000.

A 15-foot-high plywood piece of erotic art depicting two men engaged in sex was deemed too offensive for the anything-goes Burning Man festival in Nevada's Black Rock Desert.

The new Pottery Barn store opened in the Castro. A star-studded party was canceled in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Transgender activist **Denise D'Anne** was among those honored at the "Women Who Make A Difference" awards presented by the San Francisco Commission on the Status of Women.

Following September 11, organizers announced that the 18th annual Folsom Street Fair would go on as scheduled. While attendance was down slightly, the leather and fetish crowd turned

South of Market into their playground on September 30.

October

The 28th Castro Street Fair took place on October 7. "The Castro Street Fair is a celebration of the greater Castro community. We just celebrate everything that goes on in the Castro," said **Steve Gaynes**, the fair's board president. "The best talent comes out on the street and shows its stuff."

Following the terrorist attacks, anti-war protesters took to the streets in San Francisco, and many queer progressives took part. "War is the scariest thing I can imagine. I'm not afraid to admit that, to be seen as a 'wimp,' a homophobic designation if ever I heard one," said longtime activist **Tommi Avicolli Mecca**, who marched with the Milk Club at one event. "Justice must be done, no one's denying that. But dropping bombs and killing innocent people is not the solution."

Gays who once served in the military gathered on Treasure Island in October to show their support for President Bush and the war on terrorism. Former Navy man **Keith Meinhold** said that if the military had done things differently following September 11, gays and lesbians might also be exempted from discharges under the "stop-loss" order that put other discharges on hold during the war. As it stands, gays and lesbians are still covered by the failed "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

The San Francisco Zoo held its first "gay day" on October 6, which included a tea dance in the lion house. "I have been doing events a long time, and my philosophy has been that our night life in San Francisco has been unimpressive. I thought it would be cool to have something like this happen here," explained **Ivan Cano** as to why he pitched the idea to the zoo. "They were very willing and loved the idea. They thought it would be a hoot to have our audience here doing an event like this."

Calling it a classic example of

gerrymandering, the city's disparate LGBT political groups banded together for the first time in two decades to fight what they see as the political dissection of the Castro. Their rallying cry – the redrawn maps for state Senate Districts 3 and 8, with one boundary line running down the middle of Castro Street from 17th to 23rd streets.

"It appears that the new line is not only a slap in the face to the gay community, but by dividing the Castro down the middle, it also changes the distribution of the gay population," said **Theresa Sparks**, a member of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club.

"It disempowers the gay community and reduces the chance a gay person running in 2004 can be elected to the state Senate," said **Chris Bowman**.

State Senator **John Burton** (D-San Francisco) told the *Bay Area Reporter* he was not aware the new line runs down the middle of Castro Street until he was contacted by reporters and the community.

The Pride theme for 2002 was selected. It is "Be Yourself, Change the World."

November

Syphilis rates in San Francisco among men who have sex with men were reported on the rise, according to Department of Public Health officials. There were 10 such cases in 1998 and 89 reported cases through the first nine months of 2001. The news unleashed gadflies **Michael Petrelis** and **David Pasquarelli**, who waged a campaign of harassment and threats against DPH officials and members of the media. The men were livid and accused health officials of demonizing gay men. The two men were arrested on numerous felony and misdemeanor charges on November 28. Bail was set at \$500,000 each. Petrelis and Pasquarelli pleaded not guilty to the charges. Additional charges were later filed against Pasquarelli and his bail was increased by \$100,000.

Treasurer **Susan Leal** easily

won re-election to her second four-year term.

It was reported in November that **Kris Kovick**, lesbian cartoonist and writer and multi-gender mother/father figure, died in her San Francisco home on October 26. She was 50 and had been fighting a recurrence of cancer that was diagnosed as terminal last year. A celebration of her life was held in November.

The Eureka Valley Promotion Association, the oldest neighborhood group in San Francisco, celebrated its 120th anniversary. The Castro-based group held a party to mark the milestone.

Peter Teague, executive director of the Horizons Foundation, announced his resignation November 12.

Joshua Maximilian Smith, a self-described party animal, was elected president of the San Francisco Pride Committee. He succeeds **Cecilia Chung**, the group's first transgender president.

The annual march commemorating the lives of **Harvey Milk** and Mayor **George Moscone** was held November 27. The two men were assassinated by disgruntled ex-Supervisor **Dan White** on November 27, 1978. Only about 50 people attended this year's event.

Dr. **Tom Coates** suggested that HIV prevention programs don't work and should be scrapped. The frank talk from Coates comes at a time when the funding and focus of HIV/AIDS programs throughout the nation are being scrutinized. Health and Human Services Inspector General **Janet Rehnquist** is conducting a comprehensive investigation into how federal funding is being spent by these agencies. The review is expected to be completed next year.

Ken Bukowski, executive director of the Positive Resource Center, announced his resignation. **Mark Murphy**, board president, was named interim director.

December

A groundbreaking ceremony was held at Pink Triangle Park in the Castro. The small park at Market and 17th streets is dedicated to gay victims of the Holocaust. Community residents worked with city officials on the project.

Positive Resource Center announced staff layoffs. "What it means to PRC is that we have to step back and smartly identify those core services that we provide and ensure that we continue to provide those services to our current clients," said board president **Mark Murphy**. "Over the next month or so we will be having to redefine how we provide both benefit counseling and employment services." ▼

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Treasurer Susan Leal

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Mixed developments in Egypt's gay trials

by Katie Szymanski

International pressure from human rights groups played a role in helping an Egyptian teen last week to win a reduced sentence and release from jail for his presumed sexuality. The victory, however, is bittersweet, as men continue to be arrested and detained for their sexual orientation, and the boy, the youngest detained in last spring's gay bust, is now on probation after serving six months in jail.

Egyptian courts on December 19 reduced on appeal the sentence of Mahmoud, 17, who was believed to be a part of the same roundup that imprisoned the "Cairo 52," a group of men arrested after a raid on a suspected gay bar last May. Although Egyptian law does not expressly forbid homosexuality, recent government crackdowns on morals violations have targeted gay practices. Mahmoud's original sentence, handed down September 18 by the Cairo Juvenile Court, called for three years in jail and three years of probation for his "habitual practice of debauchery." The sentence was reduced last week to six months in jail — time which Mahmoud already served — and six months of probation. The boy is reportedly now back home with his family.

"This is a tremendous victory for Mahmoud and his family," said Scott Long, program director at the International Gay and Lesbian

Human Rights Commission. "Maybe the Egyptian government is starting to get the message that the arrest and torture of people for their presumed homosexuality must stop."

The human rights group Amnesty International had less rosy statements to make.

"This trial should never have taken place. The detention or imprisonment of anyone solely on the basis of their actual or perceived sexual orientation is discriminatory and violates international human rights law and practice," the organization said.

IGLHRC's Long noted that Mahmoud's personal success is celebrated in the shadow of the still-standing convictions of 23 of the original 52 men charged. "We still have 23 men serving hard labor sentences, and at least four more arrested and in detention since early November," said Long. "We need to keep up our pressure."

The convicted members of the Cairo 52 were sentenced November 14 by an Emergency State Security Court to one to five years of hard labor. Numerous irregularities with the cases were noted, including torture as a means to secure confessions, and the lack of fair representation. The men's sentences cannot be appealed, and can only be overturned by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. International pleas have failed to persuade him to act on the matter. An additional two men were convicted on December 18 for their

alleged involvement with offering gay sex over the Internet. The men, who are Egyptian university students, were sentenced to one year in prison.

The continued atrocities in Egypt are the product not only of that country's repressive government, but of America's failure to speak against them in the wake of its own campaign against individual freedoms, according to Geoffrey Mock of Amnesty International.

"As America responds to the September 11 attacks with legal measures intended to protect its citizens, two imminent, high-profile cases in Egypt provide a cautionary tale of the price that can be paid when a country takes action to fight its perceived enemies," Mock wrote in a recent *Washington Blade* opinion piece, referring to the trials of both Mahmoud and an Egyptian human rights activist.

Homosexual and activist crackdowns are just one of many things that can happen with a government's "effort to muzzle civil society," said Mock, who pointed out that Egypt's use of emergency courts to try the men without due process is exactly what America has just implemented.

Egypt's own war against armed Islamic groups in the 1980s, and the country's current cooperation with the war on terrorism, makes the country a United States ally, despite its treatment of gays. ▼

Joseph Esposito

Joe left this earth peacefully on December 10, 2001. A resident of Daly City for many years, Joe moved to Cathedral City about two years ago. Joe was born in Sandusky, Ohio and moved to the Bay Area with his lover, Clem, who preceded him in death, in the 1970s.

During the Korean War Joe enlisted in the United States Marines and served in a photography unit in Korea. He was employed in the Bay Area in Art and Craft industries.

Joe loved to play the organ and was an active member and past president of the Pacific Organ Club. He also loved clocks and had a collection of antique ones from around the world. His friends will miss our "furry little daddy." He was a good and generous man.

OBITUARY POLICY

Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste. If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number. Deadline for obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m., with the exception of special display ad obituaries, which must be submitted by Friday at 3 p.m.



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HIV prevention

◀ page 1

ly turned their attention to programs aimed at HIV-positive people.

"HIV-positive people can be more motivated to utilize prevention services because those services can also have a beneficial effect on their health," said Leiphart. "HIV-negative at-risk people have less incentive to engage in a prevention intervention because they are not dealing immediately with a potential life-threatening illness."

For the last two years, the city has taken part in a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention demonstration project called Prevention for Positive Persons. The city also convened a community advisory board of positive men to see what type of prevention programs they would want.

"You have to determine what is the best formula to reach the people who are causing the new infections. Most positive men are using condoms and most positive men are preventing new infections," said Steve Gibson, co-interim executive director of the Stop AIDS Project. "Otherwise, you would have a lot more infections than we do have."

Discussing the change in funding priorities at the San Francisco HIV Planning Prevention Council meeting on December 13, Rasmussen said the state Office of AIDS has come under a lot of pressure to show the efficacy of prevention programs.

"Never before have we been under such scrutiny. The state Legislature is asking 'If prevention and counseling works, why are people still getting infected?'" Ras-

mussen said. "Why do men who have sex with men continue to practice unsafe behaviors? Sixty percent of people who are newly tested positive have tested negative at our centers before."

The change in policy comes two years after the CDC released its strategic plan which highlighted a very strong need for interventions for persons who are HIV-positive. The federal agency then funded five pilot programs, awarding California with three of the five grants, one to the state, one to San Francisco, and one to Los Angeles.

"It has always been part of [Ryan White] CARE money to provide some prevention for positives. To some degree, it was seen by everybody involved that it was primarily an activity that exists on the CARE side and should be dealt with CARE dollars," said Rasmussen. "The CDC has raised the bar now that there are a lot of people now living with AIDS. And with the new drugs on the market, people with HIV are living longer and may not be in the care system. But, they still need prevention messages they can incorporate into their lives."

In November 2000, the state's HIV planning group made a recommendation to the Office of AIDS that 25 to 50 percent of local assistance funds to local health jurisdictions be earmarked for prevention for positives. In September 2001, the Office of AIDS held a statewide conference in San Diego with local and national leaders and scientists to discuss prevention for positives.

"As a result of the prevention for positives conference, and input we got, we made the decision to honor the planning group recommendations at the 25 percent level," explained Rasmussen. "It is

to be a standard from which to embark. We will have to deal with the allocation of funds on a case by case basis."

Not every county needs to spend 25 percent of their funds on positive people, explained Rasmussen. Several of the state's smaller counties do not have many positive people. Most larger jurisdictions are already implementing prevention for positives programs. Where the state expects to have more difficulty implementing the new policy is with mid-sized counties such as Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

Many questions remain regarding prevention programs for positives, from which programs work to who needs to be targeted. The state will likely hold workshops for prevention providers to address various issues and concerns with the new directive.

"Some positive men are being counseled in how to not infect other men. The question needed to be asked is 'Are the men in services more likely to infect somebody than the men not in services?' How do we reach those people not in services?" asked Gibson.

To inform the counties of the new policy, the Office of AIDS is mailing a letter within the next week that will require local health jurisdictions to submit a plan detailing either how they will administer — or why they should not have to spend — 25 percent of their funding on prevention for positives. The letter then must be signed by the co-chairs of the local HIV planning prevention councils.

"It is an idea whose time has come. We need to do this. The worry is how we pull it off," said Rasmussen. ▼

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Burnin' love

by Jim Provenzano

One of the purposes of sport is, quite simply, to defy mortality. Exercise and activity pushes off the inevitable mortal coil.

A somewhat morbid perspective to take, unless you've seen parodies of Ingmar Bergman films with Woody Allen playing tennis with the Grim Reaper.

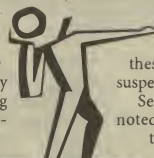
But being lucky enough to have spent the holidays with most of my family; those recovering from the twin towers collapse, another recovering from surgery, and myself recovering from a binge of *Six Feet Under* episodes graciously taped by a family friend, I decided to get out in the Midwestern near-freezing air and get some exercise.

Fortunately, the cable TV in my parents' home hindered an excess of this activity. Along with Alan Ball's grimly funny and inspirational HBO series about a family-run mortuary (one of the sons is gay and dating an African American L.A. cop), returning to Ohio recalls the youthful years lost, and the running parking meter on how many years any of us have left.

Finding an uplifting way to contemplate this year's events in a "sexy gay sports" context became simple when I stayed up channel-surfing long enough to watch ESPN2's *Firefighters' Combat Challenge*.

Flaming

The show's very title, those three words as a phrase, became unintentionally appropriate. While such competitions occur throughout the year all over the country, there was no New York representation, and strangely, no mention of more real recent events.



Sports Complex

A parking lot in Memphis, Tennessee saw several teams from fire stations around the U.S. and Canada competing in individual and team relays that reduced the functional life-saving acts of firemen and firewomen to an amusing and sometimes sexy event.

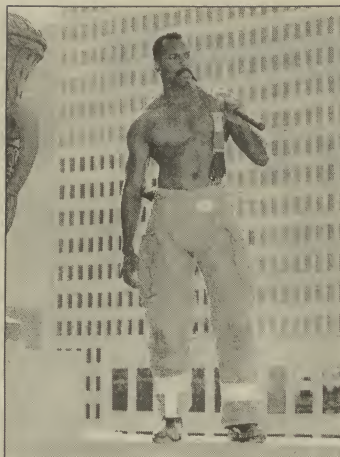
No tragic dust, no horrifying drama, no monstrous clouds curling around Wall Street corners darkened that bright sunny Southern day. Viewers could heroize and fantasize about these stalwart people in suspenders and boots.

Several gay men have noted how almost guilty they feel for imagining a date with such heroes. While straight women are allowed major media time to openly flirt, even brag about having offered themselves — with some success — to the now-recovering recovery experts, outside of the formal GLBT associations, the politics of survivor benefits and military maneuverings make declaring a lust for brave burly men seem ... unseemly. The stress and pressure of such a life, either closeted or open (recall the sexual harassment lawsuit of one lesbian San Francisco firefighter), diminish most romantic fantasies.

Not that most would turn down a date with a man adept at handling big hoses.

Nozzle toff!

Hose-handling was just one skill displayed at this festival of flammable athletics, where men sporting little under their "50-pound business suits" showed



Smoked beef: Firefighters pose down and hose down.

in such machismo-based skill contests, a blatant definition of gender role seems necessary to the proceedings.

Record-holding female contestant Martha Ellis, called "the Babe Ruth of this competition," was noticeably absent, having been pregnant this year. She was quoted as saying that her child, with two firefighting parents, would most certainly be born with an ax in its hand.

Flame-retardant

But for hunk aficionados, nothing beats the image of a shirtless firestud hosing himself off in trademark baggy pants, boots, and suspenders. These guys train hard, in teams, and camaraderie and congratulatory hugging abound.

Perhaps it's the look of a fireman, in addition to the myths. The huge pants make a grown man resemble a cute boy. Perhaps it's just that they're strong, or just all so damn manly. Perhaps, defying death is about life, and therefore naturally attractive. The bog toys, er, equipment, don't hurt, either.

From rangy Texans, Montana lunks, and Colorado cuties to Ot-

tawa hunks like Pat Tittle to Kevin Voyles, all were to be admired. Overland Park, Kansas' Bobby Russell took not only the quickest time, but the quickest hearts set aflutter as he peeled off his jacket and helmet to reveal

his shirtless, sweaty form.

Not that their diet regimen is among any non-flammable trainer's tips. After completing his race, Colorado stud Dave Minden said he was "ready to go have a beer with my buddies."

The show provided a bit of uplifting innocuous fireman-gazing that did not include Holocaust-like footage of Manhattan. And that's a nice stocking stuffer in itself. Who needs that fat guy who lives up north? Why not invite a man who knows who to climb down your chimney, and keep it flameproof, too?

Of course, those still hoping to make some sort of donation to the many victims and their families have an opportunity. Along with saving lives, firefighters are known for their fundraising activities. ▼

For more info, contact your local fire department, visit www.firefighter-challenge.com or www.firefit.com/combat/combat.html. To order one of many firemen calendars, visit www.firefightercalendar.org/calendar.htm. To cool off, visit www.sportscomplex.org.

Transgender

◀ page 12

Health Service Board voted 5-1 on February 8 to approve Leno's transgender health plan.

Shortly thereafter, Leno issued a resolution praising the Health Service Board for recognizing the need for transgender health benefits (as city law stood, transgenders could not be covered for a simple doctor's check-up if their gender identity in any way factored into the visit). The entire San Francisco Board of Supervisors signed on. The board's Finance Committee also unanimously approved the plan, and community members looked forward to reaping the rewards of their hard work.

Then came April 23. Leno eagerly introduced the legislation — which was actually part of a comprehensive health benefits expansion program that included coverage of fertility treatments and Viagra, among other things — and waited for the yes votes to fill the room. Without warning came an argument not heard since activists first began their process of enlightening the uninformed.

"There are many other groups of individuals who feel great discomfort and suffer mental anguish because something about their persona is not to their liking," District 7 Supervisor Tony Hall said during the meeting, comparing the health benefits to procedures like elective nose jobs. If transgender surgery were covered, he implied, what would stop the masses from stepping forward to demand the same coverage for their own cosmetic grievances? Genital surgery, for instance, would discriminate against non-

transgenders who want penis enlargements. Interestingly, Hall had no such opposition for coverage of the elective drug Viagra for erectile dysfunction. Hall also noted the numerous phone calls to his office from constituents opposed to the bill.

Leno quickly delayed the vote until the following week when it became clear that Hall's opposition would prevent the bill from garnering the nine votes needed for passage (Supervisors Tom Ammiano and Gavin Newsom, both believed to be supporters of the bill, were absent from the meeting). In the week that followed, Hall used every opportunity he could to express his opposition to the media, and religious and political groups attempted to influence supervisors who were thought to support the measure. The *San Francisco Chronicle* even supplied an op-ed page for Hall, Leno, and a misguided gay activist whose piece mistakenly said gender dysphoria was not a medical condition and gave fuel to Hall's argument that the gay community did not support transgender health benefits.

The April 30 meeting opened to a packed house of activists and reporters. Hours of discussion followed, with a noteworthy speech by Supervisor Jake McGoldrick that had a visible effect on the board.

McGoldrick pointed out that throughout history, the same prejudices have been used to attack the credibility of oppressed groups, and he said that opposition from constituents should not be the guiding force behind the vote.

"I will support this because it is the right thing to do morally," said McGoldrick. "There is very little personal difficulty for me, there's

just political difficulty. But popular opinion is not always right."

Hall's comments were met by boos and hissing as he explained to the transgender community that he was not discriminating against them and asked the board to "Vote on the issue, not for what is politically correct."

Leno, who at first took a more forgiving approach, was finally pushed to the edge.

"Supervisor Hall, I must confront you," Leno said to a roomful of applause. "Please describe to me how it isn't discrimination that if your wife needed a hysterectomy the city would cover it, but the same needs for transgenders are not covered."

In the midst of deliberations came some side drama as Supervisor Gerardo Sandoval, allegedly upset by an unrelated misunderstanding between himself and Leno, disappeared from the legislative chamber. As his vote was seen as a necessity for passage, the sergeant at arms was dispatched to retrieve Sandoval from his office.

AIDS Ride

◀ page 14

Furthermore, Suárez said that Pallotta's attempt to invoke the contract is ironic, considering that the relationship ended because of contract violations.

"You can't decide that there are some clauses you'll respect and others you will ignore," said Suárez.

Other Pallotta events include the Washington, D.C. and Northeast AIDS Rides, and the Avon 3-day breast cancer walks.

"When they received a bill for delinquent tax filing, all their ben-

When he returned, he was cornered by Supervisor Matt Gonzalez, who for a good 40 minutes talked to Sandoval until his shaking head was transformed into a nod.

Several hours after the meeting began, a tense room waited as Leno called for a vote. Supervisors Hall and Leland Yee voted against the package. In the end, it was Sandoval who cast the deciding vote, and the benefits passed 9-2 to an eruption of cheers and a standing ovation.

There are an estimated 13 transgender city employees, out of a workforce of 27,000. Benefits are capped at \$50,000 per employee. The total cost to each city employee, which generously assumes that all transgenders on payroll would opt for all available benefits, is estimated at \$1.70 per month.

The passage of transgender health benefits was another historic first for the nation born right here in San Francisco. Other city governments are reportedly now considering similar laws. ▼

efficiaries were billed for that. When they were thinking of developing a new event, the purchase of domain names for that [still non-existent] event was billed out to all beneficiaries," Suárez added.

SFAF is receiving legal representation from the law firm Morrison and Foerster, and legal costs are expected to be small enough to make the fight against Pallotta worthwhile. While it appears as though the San Francisco agency will enter the new year in the midst of a court battle, in the meantime it is still actively recruiting for the new event, and more information can be found at www.aidslifecycle.org. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Prevention funds

◀ page 4

cate the money to community groups to use on programs directed at 18- to 24-year-old black males who have sex with males. After the announcement in November, local agencies began working on requests for proposals.

The council had sent a letter to CDC officials in Atlanta asking for their approval to spend the money. But on Wednesday, December 12, Steve Tierney, co-chair of the council and HIV prevention director for the Department of Public Health, discovered that the CDC had rebudgeted the unobligated funds from 2000.

Instead of receiving approval, Tierney said he was told the CDC is facing a budget shortfall due to the bioterrorism attacks in Washington D.C., New York City, and Oxford, Connecticut. According to Tierney, the CDC decided to use all unobligated funds from 2000 to pay for the unexpected costs associated with the anthrax cases.

"It is not just here in San Francisco," Tierney said. "Everywhere in the United States, the CDC is taking this money due to bioterrorism expenses," he said.

However, CDC spokeswoman Terry Hammond refuted that account. She said no decision has been made to redirect unobligated funds to pay for bioterrorism activities.

"I confirmed with the budget office that we have not pulled back any carried over funding from San Francisco or any other area for bioterrorism," said Hammond, director of media relations for the CDC's Center for HIV, STD, and TB prevention. "We have every intention to give the entire amount of funding to the local areas."

What funding the CDC has not yet released to local agencies is their full funding for this year.

"We have only been able to give local areas six months of funding

and not their entire yearly budget," said Hammond. "We have not been able to give areas full funding yet until we get the budget passed for this year."

No matter what happens to the \$1 million in unobligated funds, not having the money available now only adds to the funding problems that the Black Coalition on AIDS faces. The agency had hoped to receive part of the funds to offset its budget shortfall next year.

"This year we thought we would get a big increase with all the attention on how blacks are disproportionately being affected by the epidemic," Wallace said. "We are in the process of now evaluating what we can do with \$144,000. The rest of our contracts go through June 30, 2002."

Making matters worse, the coalition's youth program will no longer receive funding from the United Way. Out of a budget of \$150,000, the program will now have a shortfall of \$30,000.

"We had scheduled to reapply for it in August, but they restructured this funding program, so we are just not eligible anymore," said Wallace. "In a sense, it generally is easier to get private funding for youth programs but not when they have that AIDS tagline."

Already, the agency has seen its staffing fall by a third, bringing the number of full-time employees to 22 from 32. So far, the cuts have not been the result of layoffs, but have come from staff resignations.

"What we have done is we are not replacing these people," explained Wallace.

As of December 31, the agency is discontinuing its transgender outreach program. In June 2002, the agency expects it will have to lose more outreach workers from other programs if it cannot find other funding sources.

"We are trying to develop better outreach and get more individual donors," said Wallace. "There is still a struggle within the black community to get people to take ownership of the disease." ▼

Dog mauling

◀ page 11

Francisco Judge A. James Robertson II sided with her attorneys and allowed her suit to proceed on the grounds that Smith was presented with an insurmountable barrier to equal protection under the California Constitution.

Smith helped lobby for AB25, a bill introduced by Assemblywoman Carole Migden (D-San Francisco) that among other provisions, gives gay couples comparable rights in civil lawsuits. The bill was signed into law this year. [See related story.]

Noel and Knoller are fighting Robertson's ruling and believe it will eventually be overturned. Noel told the B.A.R. that although he supports equal rights for gay couples, he characterized Smith's lawsuit as "malicious prosecution" because there was no legal basis for it.

Life drastically changed for the couple on March 27 when they were indicted by a grand jury. Knoller, who was with the dogs during the attack, was charged with second-degree murder. Noel was charged with involuntary manslaughter. Each also was charged with keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being.

Hours before the indictments were issued, the couple was pulled over for speeding in Yolo County, nearly 80 miles northeast of San Francisco. The CHP made the stop at the request of San Francisco police who were following the couple in an unmarked car. Noel and

Knoller have denied speculation that they were running from authorities. They were arrested in Tehama County later that day when the indictments were handed down.

The couple was booked into custody in the Tehama County jail before being transferred to the San Francisco County Jail on 7th Street where they have been in custody ever since. The couple's combined \$3 million bail was eventually reduced to \$2 million.

Noel, 60, and Knoller, 46, are being housed on separate floors. Noel is being kept in a jail pod reserved for male-to-female transgender inmates. In an interview with the B.A.R. in August, Noel said that about a third of the 40 prisoners on his floor are transgendered.

In a subsequent interview with the B.A.R., Knoller said that like Noel, she had no complaints about the staff or other prisoners. She said her greatest challenge now is to overcome a mysterious and undiagnosed illness which has caused severe and painful bruising on her legs leaving her barely able to walk at times.

On October 12, San Francisco Superior Court Judge James Warren ordered the trial moved to Los Angeles. The defense had requested a change of venue, citing extensive negative publicity in the Bay Area. Prosecutors did not fight the move.

The trial is scheduled to start with jury selection on January 22. No trial date has been set yet for the wrongful death lawsuits brought by Smith and Whipple's mother. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

NEXT YEAR'S ANNUAL ALLOWABLE RENT INCREASE

Effective March 1, 2002 through February 28, 2003 the annual rent increase amount is 2.7%. The current amount in effect is 2.8% through February 28, 2002.

Owners are reminded that pursuant to state law, rent increases that total more than 10% in any 12 month period are required to be given with a 60 day notice. For all increases that are less than 10% or total less than 10% during the 12 month period only require a 30 notice. State law also now requires an additional 5 day notice when those notices of rent increases are mailed. This means that mailed 30 day or 60 day notices are effectively 35 and 65 day notices.

For current information on other local and state law changes, visit the Rent Board web site "News and Archive". The Rent Board can be found at algov.org/rentboard. If you still need help after visiting the web site, you can speak with a counselor by calling 252-4602 between 9 am and noon and 1 to 4 pm each work day.

SAN FRANCISCO CITY CLINIC

City Clinic provides free or low cost, confidential, comprehensive sexually transmitted disease diagnostic and treatment services for anyone 12 years of age or older. The Clinic is located at 356 7th St. between Folsom and Harrison Sts., and is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m., and Thursday from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. The telephone number is (415) 487-5500.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

The Department of Children, Youth & Their Families/SafeStart announces the availability of funds for a proposal from vendors and other organizations interested in contracting to provide consultation services for the development and implementation of an evaluation plan for the San Francisco SafeStart Initiative; and to consult with the National SafeStart Evaluators to accomplish the integration of the local evaluation plan with the plans for evaluation of SafeStart Initiatives at other sites in the United States. The approved plan will result in a \$100,000 contract. Guidelines are provided in the Request for Proposal (RFP). The RFP will be available for pick up on December 21 - 28, 2001 between the hours of 8:30 am and 5:00 pm at: Dept. of Children, Youth & Their Families/SafeStart, 1390 Market St., Suite 900, San Francisco, CA 94102. Proposals are due at DCYF on January 21, 2002 by 5:00 pm. Late proposals will not be accepted, regardless of postmark. DCYF strongly encourages hand delivery of proposals.

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

The Sheriff's Department is offering you a rewarding career as a Deputy Sheriff. We are currently accepting applications on a continuous basis. Applicants must be at least 20 years old, a high school or GED graduate, a U.S. citizen, have one year of college or work experience, and possess a valid California driver's license. To apply contact the recruitment office at (415) 554-7000, email recruitment_sheriff@clsf.ca.us, or visit our website <http://www.sfsheriff.com>. As an equal opportunity employer, we especially encourage women, minorities and bilingual candidates to apply.

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE: CASE NUMBER: PES-01-282615

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: Mary Maudea Lawler (decedent).

A Petition for Probate has been filed by Daniel Patrick Lawler, in the Superior Court of California, San Francisco Superior Court 400 McAllister Street, Room 103, San Francisco, Ca. 94102-4512. County of San Francisco. The Petition for Probate requests that Daniel Patrick Lawler be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. A Hearing on the petition will be held on: December 24, 2001 in the Probate Department at 9:00am, room #204. The Petitioner is: Daniel Patrick Lawler. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253207

The following person(s) are doing business as: Massimo Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning, 1222 Olmstead Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Timothy Mark Nava. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-12-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/28/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253321

The following person(s) are doing business as: Victory Man Productions, 35 Hollis Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael B. Sigmund. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 3, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/03/01. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253234

The following person(s) are doing business as: SoulWind, 329 Church Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114-1718. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Mark Green. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-15-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/29/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001



STATEMENT FILE NO. 253266

The following person(s) are doing business as: Glen Park Flowers, 2786 Diamond Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131-3057. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Island. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 30, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/30/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS OR CITATION

CASE NUMBER: FL 043020

Notice to respondent Guy Moreaux. You are being sued. Petitioner's name is: Francis Ribisi. You have 30 Calendar Days after this Summons and Petition are served on you to file a Response (form 1282) at the court and have a copy served on the petitioner. A letter or phone call will not protect you. If you do not file your Response on time, the court may make orders affecting your marriage, your property, and custody of your children. You may be ordered to pay support and attorney fees and costs. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the clerk for a fee waiver form. If you want legal advice, contact a lawyer immediately. Notice: The restraining orders on the back are effective against both husband and wife until the petition is dismissed, a judgment is entered, or the court makes further orders. These orders are enforceable anywhere in California by any law enforcement officer who has received or seen a copy of them. The name and address of the court is: San Francisco Superior Court 400 McAllister Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. The name, and address, and telephone number of petitioner's attorney, or petitioner without an attorney is: Carole S. Cullum, SBN 114743 45 Polk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. 415- 863-5300. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253273

The following person(s) are doing business as: Hot Cookie, 407 Castro Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Daniel Ian Glazer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 1-17-97. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/30/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253364

The following person(s) are doing business as: Ian Haynes Services, 1020 Anza Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Ian Haynes. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on November 5, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/05/2001. DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253417

The following person(s) are doing business as: Amit Kumar Moving & Hauling Co. 3068 Cesar Chavez Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Amit Kumar. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 6, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/06/2001. DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253169

The following person(s) are doing business as: Alsco, 1575 Indiana Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94107-3529. This business is conducted by a corporation, signed James Hyland Vice President, Steiner Corporation (Nevada). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001. DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 219183

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: L&M Produce Market. Located at: 2169 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: December 4, 1997. This business was conducted by: an individual: Denise Ma DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 252923

The following person(s) are doing business as: My Tofu House, 4627 Geary Blvd, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Jae Hyo Sa. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-09-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/09/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253256

The following person(s) are doing business as: Wo Tang Huang Management, 1018 Powell Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Wo Tang Huang. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 11-29-01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/29/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

~ • HAPPY HOLIDAYS ~ FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very Festive year 2002!!!

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253267

The following person(s) are doing business as: Spot & Clean Janitorial, 455 Bartlett Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Maria Elisa Palma. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on June 5, 1986. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/30/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253261

The following person(s) are doing business as: Zinzino, 2355 Chestnut Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Pegasus Restaurant Corporation, Giulio Palma, CEO. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/30/2001. DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

HOLIDAY AD DEADLINES ARE CHANGED FOR THE WEEK OF NEW YEAR.

Issue date Jan 3, 2002:
display and line ads are due
12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540091

In the Matter of the Application of Stephanie Mary Bernstein aka Stephanie Mary Valiskevicius, for change of Name. The application of Stephanie Mary Bernstein aka Stephanie Mary Valiskevicius for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Stephanie Mary Bernstein aka Stephanie Mary Valiskevicius has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to -Stephanie Mary Infante. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 4th day of February, 2002 at 9:00am, of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted.
DEC. 6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253494

The following person(s) are doing business as: Calvin Lau Designs, 2675 Pine Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Calvin Lau. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 11, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/11/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253542

The following person(s) are doing business as: Home, 2100 Market Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed John Hurley. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253325

The following person(s) are doing business as: Fitness With Joe, 3212-14 Fillmore Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual, signed James M. Washington (JMW). The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 3, 01. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/03/2001.
DEC. 13, 20, 27, JAN 3, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253551

The following person(s) are doing business as: The Pleasure Project, 3435 Cesar Chavez Street, Suite #226, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Edwin Eugene Groff. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/13/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253521

The following person(s) are doing business as: Garden Of Tranquility, 2001 17th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Luo, Guo Wei. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253525

The following person(s) are doing business as: Soma Motors, 1601 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by a limited liability company, signed Randy Hoffman, Soma Motors LLC, owner. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 12, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/12/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253607

The following person(s) are doing business as: Steve Kay and Jerry, Mr. LIMO, Executive Town Car Service, 2090 Green Street, #35, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Steve Kay. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 10, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/17/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253583

The following person(s) are doing business as: Mission Creek Printing, 298 Alabama Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Kenneth E. Neal. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on December 14, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/14/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253616

The following person(s) are doing business as: Liquid Fire Productions, 135 Eureka Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual, signed Veronica C. Combs. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on July 01, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/17/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253177

The following person(s) are doing business as: Maxfields, 398 Dolores Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual, signed David Peterson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/26/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253647

The following person(s) are doing business as: NVI Investments, 1215 Filbert Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94109. This business is conducted by a general corporation, signed John Henry Kouba, NVI Investments. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on May 2, 1983. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 12/18/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO. 211827

The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as: Estrella Janitorial. Located at: 2609 Turk Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94118. The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: February 26, 1997. This business was conducted by: an Individual: Rene L. McLean
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2001

STATEMENT FILE NO. 253218

The following person(s) are doing business as: Flippers Gourmet Burgers, 482-A Hayes Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by a general partnership, signed Salameh Naser and Ramzi Faraj. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 8, 1997. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 11/28/2001.
DEC. 20, 27, JAN 3, 10, 2002

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JOBS OFFERED

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Is seeking a highly organized, motivated, and creative team player to coordinate and implement an HIV Prevention Program for gay and bisexual men in the SoMa. BA degree and/or equivalent experience. Excellent communication writing and computer skills required. FT with bens. Send letter, resume and 3 refs. to: SCOSC, 2128 15th Street, SF, CA 94114. Fax (415) 575-0166.
Call Andrea at (415) 575-0510, ext. 299 for full job description.

DANCERS WANTED
Club 220 is always
looking for new talent!
Great pay & tips for
part time job.
Call 673-3511

AUDITIONS
Boys & Men Wanted
Experience or not. All types.
Shooting Every Week
Call Allan Alan Pictures today!
415-346-9165

Caregivers wanted for elderly care \$8-\$10 an hour. Live in and hourly available. Car is a plus. Call David at 415-273-1497. CNA's & HHA's

TECHNICIAN

To do urine collections & alcohol testing. Position requires computer skills & driving a motorhome. Motorhome is suitable for fulltime living. Will train right person. FAX resume to (510) 237-4255

Hot/Hung Naked Guys
Factory Video is looking for hot, horny guys, 18-35, in-shape, very good looking, for gay videos. Got what it takes? • 415-255-0446

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Airfare to Miami & 1 night hotel room plus a free cruise for the right person with a valid passport and a good digital video camera. Cruise the Med. for 8 days-7 nights with comic diva Shann Carr. Fly to Miami Jan 25, cruise departs Jan 26, returns Feb. 2. If you qualify call (760) 202-0404 for all details immediately.

PSYCHIATRY

MD w/Board elig psych standing or NP Lic by State of CA. Exp w/HIV+, homeless, and sub. abuse. PT, \$29-\$42 DOE. Resume and letter to: HAFCI Detox Program-BAR, 612 Clayton St., SF, CA 94117, Attn: J. Beck. Email jbeck@hafci.org.

HOT MEN/VIDEO

Video Days \$1000. Ask for Chris. Noon to 7PM 566-0122

SUBMIT...

... your ad to the Bay Area Reporter Classifieds by calling David at 415-861-5019!

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Waikiki For Less!
Rooms with a view for as low as:
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The ideal location at the quiet end of Waikiki—close to the Gay Beach and Hula's. A small boutique hotel with only two rooms per floor, private lanais and an unobstructed view of Diamond Head.

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Kona Hawaii private bed/bath. Pool \$40 single, \$50 couple. 808-325-0990. John • (Nice, Quiet).

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Private 3br w heated pool & spa. views. completely furn. avail by wk, mo. wind. Sleeps 6-8. Also avail for White Party - Dinah Shore. \$495 & up. Gay owned. 415-577-4459 kincaldr@att.net

Kona Hawaii private bed/bath. Pool 40.00single, 50.00 couple 808-325-0990 John (Nice, quiet)

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HOLIDAY AD DEADLINES ARE CHANGED FOR THE WEEK OF NEW YEAR.

Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001

ROOMMATES

Room/condo/SF, 5 yrs old, 3 bed, 2 ba, plush carpet Full kitchen, washer/dryer, secure property (private road, house alarm), view Candlestick Park/Bay, quiet household, must see to appreciate, over 25, N/S, N/D, Maximum three males, one bedroom left, no pets. \$725/uti incl. First/Last Dep. Available now. (415)850-8194

GM seeks same share SF 3BR 2BA WD Deck, EZ park, NS must have trans.\$550+util, avail 01/01 586-9404

~•HAPPY HOLIDAYS~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very Festive year 2002!!!

Redwood City House near 280. No smok \$450+Util Lv msg 650-367 7528

Room for rent Laguna at Haight 700 per month. Large sunny room Call for details 553-3956

Rm for rent on Castro/18th Share lrg flat with others W/D cbl tow bth util incl \$600mth. 600.Odps 255-7155

GM SEEKS SAME SHARE BERNAL HTS House 2bd, 1.5ba wdGdn dk vw ezipark smkr ok 900mo+1/2u Ready now. Peter 826-8418

Share quiet sunny 2 bdr apt view exc loc \$795mo. 643 7770

RENTALS

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Overlooking lush yd in my home. Dogs Gardn'g welcome. 350 Sq Ft. New 10X11 Kit, newly painted, full bath and bedrm. Mirrored walls. Ingside/CCSF. 1 yr Lease avail Jan. 1st. \$1025+Util.Shr \$35-45. Mike 337-0902

4RM COTTAGE FOR RENT \$2250
Castro area, 1 bdrm, 1 bath, remodeled kit & bath, W/D, Pet Okay. Call 415-641-8699

STUDIO \$850 OAKLAND
Grand Lake theater area. Large sunny charming building. Easy access 510-839-2021

~•HAPPY HOLIDAYS~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very Festive year 2002!!!

2700 RUSSIAN HILL W GARDEN 2br split bath frm/ dr lwrflpce New paint & hardwood 415 331 1461

SERVICES

~•HAPPY HOLIDAYS~
FROM B.A.R.

Ad deadlines for the weeks of Xmas and New Years. Issue date Dec 27, 2001: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 21, 2001. Issue date Jan. 3, 2002: Display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001. Have a very Festive year 2002!!!

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The secret life of poets

'Savage Beauty: The Life of Edna St. Vincent Millay' tells her strange life story.
page 40

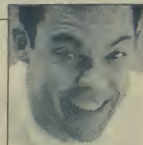
Classical gas

The year's best in opera, dance and classical CDs.
pages 27, 28, 32



Coming up on stage

New plays by Adam Bock, Tony Kushner, and others.
page 30



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

BAY AREA REPORTER

Vol. 31 • No. 52 • 27 December 2001

Queer with a vengeance

Top 10 gay and lesbian films of 2001

Billy Kay and Paul Franklin Dano
in Michael Cuesta's *L.I.E.*



by David Lamble

1

L.I.E. In the opening scene of *L.I.E.*, a film depicting the many and sometimes subtle perils of adolescence, we see

Howie (Paul Franklin Dano, in an astonishingly intuitive depiction of a young man who comes at your heart from every imaginable direction) walking across a handrail suspended over the actual Long Island Expressway. It's hard, while praying that Howie finds his way across the *L.I.E.*, not to remember that a real-life gay boy killed himself jumping off a freeway overpass in Oregon a few years ago — though Dano and the filmmakers (brothers Michael and Gerald Cuesta and Stephen M. Ryder) are not saying for certain that Howie is gay.

In truth, *L.I.E.* is really a meditation on what it means to be a father in these anxious times. Brian Cox plays Big John Harrigan as if he were Big John Wayne rather than the proprietor of an island of lost boys. *L.I.E.* becomes a dangerous dance between Howie and John as they draw a fine line between father/son, lover/beloved and predator/victim. Cuesta allows Howie to seduce John with

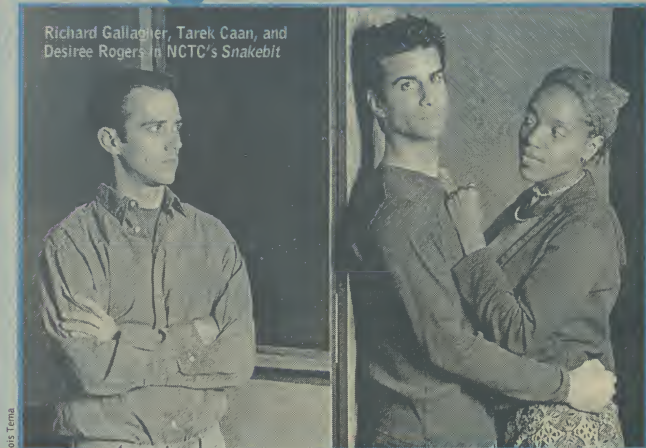
page 31 ►

Bay Area theatre in review, 2001

Tragedies and comedies

by Richard Dodds

Richard Gallagher, Tarek Caari, and
Desiree Rogers in NCTC's *Snakebit*



Theater in San Francisco, like just about every business, took a hit in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks. Some companies, like A Traveling Jewish Theatre, have even gone public with doubts about their ability to survive the aftermath of Sept. 11.

But Lily Tomlin, who began performances at Theatre on the Square just days after the attacks, had the right play at the right time. After all, what could be more appropriate than a show titled *The Search for Intelligent Signs of Life in the Universe*? Holdovers will keep the show running into February.

Unfortunately, John Epperson, who opened three days after the world changed, found that *Lypsinka! The Boxed Set* was not the diversion most audiences were in the mood for in those shaky moments. Too bad, because it was a classy compendium of the best of *Lypsinka*.

It will be interesting to see how recent events will affect choices of plays in the

near future. For example, it's unlikely that 42nd Street Moon would have kept *It's Superman*, in which a madman blows up City Hall, on its 2001 season if its run came after Sept. 11.

And one has to wonder if even the gutsy San Francisco Mime Troupe would have had the nerve to present *1600 Pennsylvania Avenue*, its devastating burlesque of the Bush Administration, if the attacks had come before its summer season began.

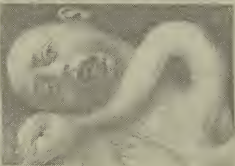
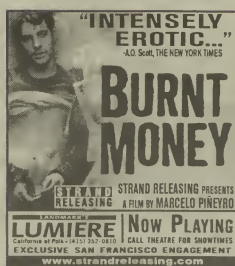
What follows are some of the other shows that made theatergoing memorable in the Bay Area during 2001.

The gay life

Two highlights of gay theater seen in 2001 were provided by the New Conservatory Theatre Center. *Snakebit*, David Marshall Grant's play about a gay-straight-AIDS triangle, provided many emotionally gripping moments, while

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SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS



by Roberto Friedman
and Bob Humbug

Holiday season and all year round, heterosexual, mainstream, Hollywood America continues to churn out pre-digested product, in the process robbing gay men and women of our due recognition. Out There's Press hat is off this week to Internet gadfly **Matt Drudge**, who reported that all the homosexual references in the book *A Beautiful Mind*, **Sylvia Nasar's** biography of mathematical genius **John Nash**, were deliberately left out of coward director **Ron Howard's** stupid film version now playing.

The movie starring Aussie narcissist **Russell Crowe** completely omits every homosexual incident in the book, including Nash's 1954 arrest for indecent exposure and "making a come-on to another man" in a public restroom. Drudge quotes a well-placed source close to the Universal/Dreamworks production as saying, "The homosexual stuff got in the way. Besides, American audiences don't care to see Russell Crowe getting it on with a man! It would just kill us at the box office."

And that, sadly, is what it's all about in Hollywood. Just ask pretentious art-film factory Miramax, whose prestige release *Iris* starring **Dame Judi Dench** as novelist **Iris Murdoch** manages to circumvent renditions of any lesbian dalliances Murdoch might have had

in her youth. There's a scene where a butch dyke leaves her table when eventual hubby **John Bayley** (**Jim Broadbent**) approaches; and a scene where Bayley asks her point blank if she fucks girls (we paraphrase). **Iris** doesn't respond. Director **Richard Eyre** dangles the possibility before us, then yanks it away, playing ho-hum safe yet again.

Out There says to the straight film world: Stop denying gay people our presence in the world! We're heroes, geniuses and philosophers, too, and we will make it known!

Leading lights

Now here's a flag we can really rally behind. Quoth the series of banners flying outside

City Lights Bookstore in North Beach: "Dissent Is Not Un-American." They feature the faces of people with American flags pasted over their mouths, as vivid an image of the year 2001 as we can fathom.

Asked whether the flags will remain up through the holiday season, our source at City Lights said, "I think they'll be up until we have a new Administration! Or until a new day dawns. I'm not sure it will be in our lifetime."

A Kicksmas carol

Adorable young waif, nose pressed against the window: "Mr. Out There, it's the holiday season. Can't you lay off the kvetching and the whining about civil rights for just one week?"

But OT just loves it when Kicksmas week rolls around! We love these few festive days between the birth of the baby **Cheeses** and that very important religious holiday, New Queer's Day. Yes, it's that merry time of year, as Brit wit **P.G. Wodehouse** so aptly put it, "when minor employees of hotels, restaurants and other nests of pirates smile oily at our approach."

So go find a nice healthy fir, chop it down, swaddle it in a blanket, and prop it up in your domicile. Shop frantically for liquor, nut logs, chocolates, cheeses, and other artery-clogging goodies to bestow upon loved ones and business associates. Wish them all the best — and advise them to get



Judi Dench in Richard Eyre's *Iris*



Porn star Hal Rockland with porn director Gino Colbert on the set.

their cholesterol checked.

Waif: "Mr. OT, somewhere in that coal-black heart of yours, there must be a tiny glimmer of goodness!"

OT (dropping a coin in the gutter): "Here's a ha'penny for you, young whip. Go find your fix of Ritalin."

Brother Gino

The December issue of *Adam Gay Video Erotica* features "The Top 40 Films" of porn performer-turned-director **Gino Colbert**. No doubt OT readers will enjoy photo spreads from such features as *Latin Obsession* and *Tijuana Toilet Tramps*, but Out There most enjoyed Colbert's tale of how he came to have his *nom de porn*.

Seems when he started out in the business, he used his real name. Then a friend took him backstage to meet film star **Claudette Colbert** when she played Broadway. He told her what he did for a living.

"And she said, 'Oh, those blue movies that play 42nd Street. What name do you use?' When I

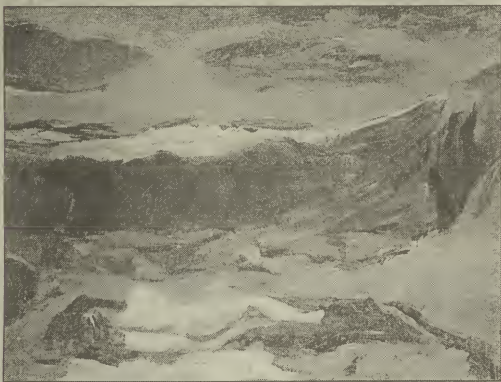
told her I'd been using my real name she said, 'Don't do that. I don't even use my real name.' So I said, 'Well, maybe I'll use yours then.' And she said, 'Go for it.'"

Colbert (G., not C.) also gives the low-down on the making of legendary porno *Three Brothers*, starring **Hal, Vince** and **Shane Rockland**. During the course of filming, both Hal and Vince quit the business. "I'm glad I shot the big scene with all three brothers the very first day, or there wouldn't have been a movie."

Californ years

Coupled with the exhibition of the work of seminal California artist **Elmer Bischoff** now at the Oakland Museum through January 13, a new volume devoted to the artist, *Elmer Bischoff: The Ethics of Paint* by art historian and curator **Susan Landauer** with an introduction by poet **Bill Berkson** (U. of Cal. Press), is a good starting place for some long-overdue popular appreciation. A pioneering figurative painter, Bischoff returned from WWII to

page 29 ►



Elmer Bischoff, *Blue Clouds, 1963*

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Sweet Lips



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Seduced by opera and ballet

Best of the Bay Area classical year 2001

by Stephanie von Buchau

There is always the problem, unacknowledged by most critics, that just because you like something doesn't mean it is a great work of art. It just means that you like it. (And, vice versa, if you don't like it, it doesn't mean it is bad.) So, operatically and balletically, this is what I heard or saw in 2001 that pleased, excited or moved me. That doesn't necessarily mean it was "the best." Feel free to add or subtract.

The most totally satisfying opera performance I heard was the San Francisco Opera production of Saint-Saëns' *Samson et Dalila*. It is not a great brainiac opera that offers a deep psychological case study of the human condition, the way Janacek's *Jenufa* does. *Samson* is a work that operates at groin level, and in today's artistic climate — where everything is permitted, meaning that nothing has shock value — a groin opera that actually turns you on is rare enough to excite even a jaded palate.

Doug Schmidt's MGM production perfectly suits the work's Technicolor melodies and hyper-emotional ideas, and if you can't have Hedy Lamarr as the Philistine temptress with the overactive knicker-knacker, I can't think of a theatrical seductress alive today more convincing than Russian mezzo soprano Olga



Olga Borodina as Dalila

Borodina.

Not only does her dusky, caramelized voice promise unspeakable erotic delights, but her self-contained, sloe-eyed, voluptuous presence suggests some deep feminine mystery that only Olga Volga understands. Panting would-be Samsons of all persuasions wanted to plunge in and plumb the depths. And that goes for her partner, Sergei Larin, too, one of the best Samsons I've heard in 55 years of opera-going — a list that includes McCracken, Vickers, Thomas, Chauvet and Domingo.

Above the belt

On the other hand, as much as

I loved surrendering to the sensual allure of *Samson et Dalila*, the best above-the-belt SFO experience was *Jenufa*. As nervous as we may be about what Pamela Rosenberg is going to do theatrically to her chosen repertory — I have no objection to the list of operas, but next season's *Trovatore* features a stage full of chairs — *Jenufa*, planned by her predecessor but "rejiggered" by the new boss, proved that Rosenberg can have a clear-eyed view of what should be the most important aspect of opera — the music and singing.

My third wonderful operatic experience this year was Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades* in Los Angeles. Shadowed by the 9/11 tragedy (I heard it the night before) and marred by one of those irritating European "Konzert" productions in which brilliant ideas are mixed with stupid ones (and the director doesn't seem able to tell the difference), musically it was stunning. Valery Gergiev, Plácido Domingo, and Elena Obraztsova seemed like artists from another planet, where singing and acting, music and drama are inextricably intertwined.

The only other operatic memory I cherish is Patrick Summers' conducting of *Aida* this summer, an orchestral reading that took me back decades to when I was just discovering how fabulous a composer Verdi was, before years



In 2001, the Bay Area had a love fest with choreographer Mark Morris.

of benign neglect and outright trashing by SFO dulled the edge of my appreciation. Unfortunately, the production was really bad, and the singing, while I admired it at the time, has faded. All I remember is the fragrant, shimmering heat of the Nile, rising from the orchestra pit.

In ballet, my memories, as usual, are mostly a Mark Morris love fest. If it is true that you get the artists you deserve, we must have done something awfully good in a previous incarnation. I loved the revivals of *Hard Nut* and

Platée, while my favorite Morris short piece, *The Office*, was even more devastating after 9/11. The preview for his Berkeley audience of *V* had moving moments, but I'd have to see it more times before I could sort it out musically.

Easier to grasp was *Gong*, which transformed a dreary American Ballet Theatre evening. *Gong* is one of those pieces that seem pretty and pleasant when you are first watching it, and then grows and grows in your mind afterward. Like all of Morris' best

next page ►



The cast of Christopher Durang's *Betty's Summer Vacation*

Theatre 2001

◀ Arts cover

Paul Rudnick's *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, a gay revisionist view of religion, had the moxie to land its laughs.

Ronnie Larsen showed up in three distinct guises. He hired a bunch of porn stars to play a bunch of porn stars in the unnecessary *Shooting Porn*. Larsen then displayed a more sober side in an effective character study titled *A Few Gay Men*. And then, under a female pseudonym, he cranked out a lesbian sex comedy called *Girl Meets Girl*.

Actors Theatre of San Francisco offered a pair of local premieres of plays by notable gay playwrights. And it just so happened that both featured variations on the haunted-house

theme. Christopher Durang went for laughs in *Betty's Summer Vacation*, while Brad Fraser added menace to the mania in *Snake in Fridge*. Both productions were highlighted with casts in sharp harmony with their characters.

Theatre Rhino was at its most intriguing with a trio of solo shows. Seattle's David Schmdar offered his provocative look at the ho-to-het movement in *Straight*. Doug Holsclaw revived his intriguing AIDS metaphor *Don't Make Me Say Things That Will Hurt You*, and hard-working Marga Gomez earned her laughs in the otherwise messy *Twelve Days of Cochina*.

Tell-alls

There was a run of celebrity reminiscences in 2001 (and if we're

page 35 ►

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The year in contemporary dance

by Michael Wade Simpson

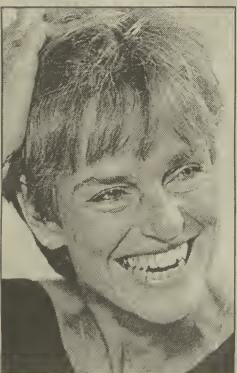
There are people who see dance, and then there are those who live it. I decided to enlist the opinions of a few of the latter in my review of the year in contemporary dance. Here's what they liked in 2001:

Lisle Peterson, Cal Performances: "Nederlands Dans Theatre, performing in the Bay Area for the first time in two decades, last February; and Mark Morris Dance Group's preview performance of *V*, set to music of Schumann's Quintet in E-flat major for Piano and Strings, in October."

Keith Hennessy, choreographer and performer, co-founder of 848 Divisadero, a performance space: "Sara Shelton Mann's *Monk at the Mer* at ODC, the absolute best, most exciting and most sublime fusion of dance and music, sound and motion. The Dance Brigade's *The Garden of Non-Duality*, choreographed by Krissy Keefer, at Dance Mission and on the street in front of the Italian Consulate after the Genoa police riots. And at Club Bas, politically-charged dance, martial arts, text and image, with a spiritual focus. Akira Kasai's *Pollen*, a duet with Pe ver Meersch, part of the Butoh Festival at Theater Artaud, a dance-ritual spectacle which stripped butoh and all dance to an essential presence and magic. Axis Dance Company, at Cowell Theatre, exploded notions of the body's abilities and disabilities."

Brenda Way, KT Nelson and Kimi Okada, choreographers/founders of ODC/San Francisco: "A unanimous vote for Nederlands Dans Theatre, at Zellerbach."

John Killackey, Executive Director, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts: "Brenda Way's *Spectral Evidence* integrated live video components, a spectacular achievement. Alonzo King's evening-



ODC Artistic Director Brenda Way



Judith Smith (left) and members of Axis Dance Company: extraordinary.

length masterpiece with music by the Nzama Lela Baaka musicians from the Central African Republic, last October. Anna Halprin's 80th birthday concert at the Cowell Theater in June included the revival of her 1965 *Parades and Changes*, a truly seminal work that holds up beautifully. Axis Dance Company showcased the extraordinary company of mixed-ability dancers: Judy Smith absolutely rocks as she flies around stage in her wheelchair. Bill 'Crutchmaster' Shannon blew everyone away at Theater Artaud with his hip-hop-inspired dancing on crutches."

World blend

As for me, the year was a rich and unique opportunity to sample from the international blend that makes dance-going in San Francisco such a pleasure. As unbiased as criticism attempts to be, there are also personal notes that linger in the memory like Post-its on the reviews. For example, there was the experience last year of watching a friend, who has since died, perform for the first time on a big stage in Anna Halprin's premiere — a piece about, what else, death. There was a moment when Jeff simply reached out from his shroud-like costume — a simple, un-self-conscious gesture that I found incredibly moving. It seemed to embody his openness to his own impending exit. That image, Jeff's reach, will stay with me for a long time.

The night of the Nederlands Dans Theater performance was important to me because seeing this dance company some 20 years ago in Los Angeles pretty much convinced me to become a dancer. Life is strange: this time, in my balcony seat, I was forced to struggle with the great images and theatre I was seeing at the same

time that the man next to me was breaking my heart. How real art is, and how sad I felt getting up and rushing out at the first chance, assuring the usher I would not be coming back. Maybe in 20 years.

There was the opportunity to see the Mark Morris Dance Group perform shortly after the events of Sept. 11. Once again, I cried. Not in grief, but in gratitude, because seeing the world the way Morris sees it, through music and movement, is, to my mind, a better way of seeing. There has been some talk about how the changes in the world will send artists back to the pursuit of beauty. Wonder what beauty would look like now? Go to see the Morris company dance, a bunch of differently-shaped people representing all of us, in works that respond to music and to feelings, and make joyful use of space and the body and humor.

Finally, a great Japanese artist, the butoh dancer Katsura Kan, helped put a lot of things in perspective for me. Why dance? He told me he had once seen a UFO as a young man, and decided to dedicate his life to the depiction of the strangeness and wonder of that moment. He chose the theatre, he chose dance.

The last scene of *Fish Market* was as simple as this: eight dancers move slowly downstage into a huddle facing the audience. The music is "Somewhere Over the Rainbow." The spotlight, ash-whitened faces slowly change to express the following: smile, delight, joy, overjoy, crazy, anger, glare, rage, out-of-rage, mad, sadness, sorrow, anguish, despair, ecstasy, neutral.

Yes, life is a UFO. And it can also be boiled down into a very simple dance. I keep going, and dance keeps showing me the way. ▼

Opera & dance

◀ previous page

work, it is about a lot more than its shiny surface. "Beautiful" and "sad" are two words that come immediately to mind.

For San Francisco Ballet, Morris turned the overblown Strauss-Couperin suite into the elegant *A Garden*, which had the opposite effect of *Gong*. I loved it

the night I saw it, especially the ravishing duet for Joanna Berman and Damian Smith, but the piece has faded, so I'm glad it's returning in the upcoming SFB season, along with new work that Morris is creating for the retiring Berman.

Technically, Julia Adam's *Night* is from SFB's 2000 season, but I didn't see it until 2001, so it definitely belongs on this list of works that blew me away this year.

Tina LeBlanc in electric blue, the three-headed lady, the bed of handsome young men upon which LeBlanc reclined, the sudden ending in which she awakes from her febrile dream, allied to Matthew Pierce's sensational new score, worked ballet magic. The good news is that Adam is creating another work for SFB this season. The bad news is that she is using Vivaldi rather than a commissioned score. ▼

Spirit of the times

Best of 2001 in Bay Area art

by Will Shank

The best art shows of the year in the Bay Area, following in chronological order:

Toulouse-Lautrec and the Spirit of Montmartre was up from March through May at the Legion of Honor. Less an art exhibition than a spirited history of Paris during one of its most colorful moments, the traveling show was complemented by choice works from the permanent collections of the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco.

The elegant linear paintings of **Max Cole** at Haines Gallery in April proved how much color can be discerned in shades of gray.

The Gilded Age was a traveling show from the Smithsonian American Art Museum installed this spring at the Cantor Center for Visual Arts at Stanford. The exhibition is the happy result of the Washington museum's being closed for renovation and its collections being chopped up and shipped out in intelligent blocks of art-historical insight. A treat for art-lovers, many of whom have never visited the Smithsonian's least-known venue. Also in this category: **Corot to Picasso**, greatest hits from Smith College Museum of Art, which followed the Smithsonian show at Stanford.

Lifelike, the summer show at New Langton Arts, took a thin concept and attracted some fascinating artists working in many media, all of whom successfully addressed the matter of artifact mimicking nature.

Henry Moore: Sculpting the



Lullaby (detail), by Timothy Cummings, 2001

20th Century at the Legion of Honor in August and September (and now at the National Gallery of Art) was the first major retrospective in decades of Britain's most important 20th-century sculptor. Museum visitors were treated not only to juxtapositions of his familiar figures, but to insights into Moore's leftist politics, and their influence on his artwork as well.

Timothy Cummings' **Neverland**, at Catharine Clark Gallery in September, showed what a gifted painter can accomplish with acrylics. Besides their remarkable rendering, his chiaroscuro figures are like Flemish oil portraits which have been run through a ringer or stamped with black doily stencils. A local artist to watch.

Avedon: Made in France, which closes December 29 at Fraenkel Gallery, transports the viewer not only to a glittering setting (Paris in the '50s), but also into the working method of *Harpers Bazaar's* premier fashion photographer, margin notes and all.

The **Ansel Adams** centenary, now at SFMOMA, shows that there is something new to be learned from a retrospective of a familiar artist. His familiar subjects (Yosemite, New Mexico landscapes) profit from the presentation with less well-known iconography like aerial views of waves breaking on a beach. What a pity that the late, lamented Ansel Adams Center did not do as well as SFMOMA has with the same raw material. ▼

Out There

◀ page 26

teach at the California School of Fine Arts (now the San Francisco Art Institute).

Berkson writes that if "**David Park** was the classicist of the founding triad of the Bay Area Figurative painters, and **Richard Diebenkorn** the modernist, Bischoff was the romantic." His vibrant, Expressionist color and brush can be seen in great landscapes like *Blue Clouds* (1963) and *Yellow Sky* (1967; in SFMOMA's permanent collection).



Painter Elmer Bischoff

"Bischoff almost never painted single male nudes — despite the sketch group's frequent use of male models," writes Landauer, although she notes one exception, "his emphatically vertical, fist-clenched *Standing Male Nude in the Shower* (1957)." But there is muscle and beauty aplenty in all of Bischoff's painting, which is full of both gestural and aesthetic energy.

Book look

Ten books we enjoyed awfully much this year.

Emerald Budgies Lee Maxwell (Diva)

Fraud David Rakoff (Doubleday)

I Remember Joe Brainard (Granary Books)

In the City of Sky Hunters Tom Spanbauer (Grove)

On the Water H.M. van den Brink (Grove)

Outbound William Storandt (U. of Wisconsin)

The Practical Heart Allan Gurganus (Knopf)

The Queen Is Dead Mark Simpson and Steven Zeeland (Arcadia)

The Secret Agent Joseph Conrad (Everyman)

Tramps Like Us Joe Westmoreland (Painted Leaf)

We're in record

Ten CDs we listened to a helluva lot.

Bionix De La Soul (Tommy Boy)

Dog in the Sand Frank Black and the Catholics (WARR)

Fan Dance Sam Phillips (Nonesuch)

I Might Be Wrong Radiohead (Capitol)

Jonathan David Belle and Sebastian (Jeepster)

Life on a String Laurie Anderson (Nonesuch)

Love and Theft Bob Dylan (Columbia)

Progression - The Art of the Trio, Vol. 5 Brad Mehldau Trio (Warner Bros.)

Wicked Grin John Hammond (Virgin)

You Are #6 - More Music for Six Musicians Don Byron (Blue Note)

Goodbye, foul year

"America, because of its omnipotence, is full of fear; it fears the fury of the world and re-names it envy." — from *Fury* by Salman Rushdie (Random House, 2001) ▼

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Shows to watch out for

Bay Area theater to come in 2002

by Richard Dodds

Elsewhere in these pages you can find a look back at what made San Francisco theater interesting in 2001. This space offers up, in no particular order, 10 promising offerings that should help make 2002 a year of dramatic opportunities.



SF playwright Adam Bock

Two by Bock

Gay San Francisco playwright Adam Bock will at last follow up his 1999 success *Swimming in the Shallows*, with not one but two plays. First, Encore Theatre Company with offer the premiere this coming month of Bock's *Five*

Flights. This is a hard-to-summarize tale of an aviary built by a widower as a tribute to his late wife, and the effect it has on his children after he dies.

The Shotgun Players introduced Bock to San Francisco with *Swimming in the Shallows*, and the troupe plans to present Bock's *A Fairy's Tale* in March or April as it introduces its new space. *A Fairy's Tale* is a musical story (songs are by Clive Worsley) that is also hard to describe. Perhaps it's best just to quote from the press release: "Puppets and whirly-gigs and farting swamps and princesses and friends and songs and noise!"

A Redgrave story

Homosexuality runs rampant through *The Mandrake Root*, Lynn Redgrave's occasionally au-



Lynn Redgrave comes to San Jose

tobiographical play in which she'll also star for San Jose Rep in January. Redgrave plays a character fashioned on her mother both in her youth and dotage who is dealing with memories of her closeted husband and her testy relationship with her lesbian daughter.

Rodgers and heart

Across the country, theaters will be participating in celebrating the centenary of Richard Rodgers' birth. 42nd Street Moon is doing its share with a season of rare Rodgers musicals, including the American premiere of the 1930 London musical *Ever Green*. The company that presents staged-concert versions of "lost musicals" will itself be marking its 10th anniversary.

Not quite Shakespeare

In the spring, New Conservatory Theatre Center is offering the Bay Area premiere of Joe Calarco's *Shakespeare's Reel*, a recent New York and London success that taps into the homoerotic tensions of an all-boy Catholic school where *Romeo and Juliet* is being staged.

But first, in January, ACT is presenting a play that suggests *Romeo and Juliet*, and all of Shakespeare's great plays, were not written by that bearded man with male pattern baldness. Instead, posits playwright Amy Freed in *The Beard of Avon*, the author was actually an openly bisexual Edward de Vere, the 17th Earl of Oxford.

Coward unbound

Theatre Rhino is up first in January with one of a pair of intriguing reimaginings of comedies by Noel Coward. The always-interesting John Fisher is directing the sophisticated *menage à trois* farce *Design For Living*, in a production that may find its gay undertones somewhat heightened.

Over at ACT in March, director Charles Randolph-Wright will do to Coward's *Blithe Spirit* something akin to what he earlier did to Moliere's *Tartuffe*. In that delightfully sly production, he reset the satire of religious hypocrisy to an American upper-middle-class black enclave in the 1950s.

Off to 'Copenhagen'

There has been a small flurry of plays with scientific backdrops (*Schrodinger's Girlfriend*, *Proof*), and *Copenhagen* promises to be the most erudite of the group. But



Theatre Rhino's New Year's Eve Stand-up Spectacular at the Victoria

you don't have to be a rocket scientist to appreciate Michael Frayn's morality tale based on an actual 1942 meeting of two scientists who could help decide whether the Americans or the Germans would get the atom bomb first. The New York and London hit opens in January at the Curran.

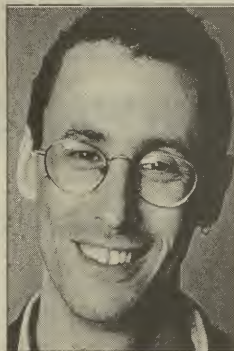


Backstage

Kushner's 'Kabul'

Homebody/
Kabul is Tony

Kushner's first major new play since *Angels in America*. Set in a suddenly timely Afghanistan, it was actually scheduled by Berkeley Rep for an April opening well before Sept. 11. It's the story of a bored English housewife who disappears into the alternate world of



Playwright Tony Kushner

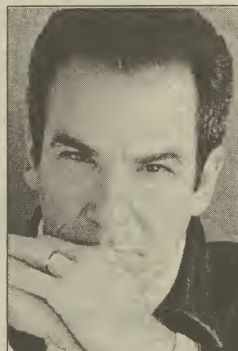
Afghanistan, and of her family as it sets out to find her. The reviews of its recent premiere in New York were mostly good.

Short scenes

• Something else about *Copenhagen*: You can be part of the

scenery. There are 37 onstage bleacher seats available at each performance, but the \$34 tickets may only be purchased in person at the Curran, the Orpheum, or the Tix Bay Area Booth. There are rules that go with these tickets to be spelled out at the point of purchase.

• If you want to laugh your way into the new year (and after 2001, that doesn't sound like such a bad idea), check out Theatre Rhino's *New Year's Eve Stand-up Spectacular*! Such funny people as Tom Ammannio, Pippi Lovestocking, Lisa Geduldig, and Doug Holsclaw will begin with the jokes at 8 p.m. at the Victoria Theatre. Call 861-5079.



Showman Mandy Patinkin

• Kristen Chenoweth was a no-show at a recent Osher Marin JCC CenterStage concert, but Mandy Patinkin is on tour promoting his new *Kidults* CD, so chances are good he'll turn up for his Jan. 2 concert at the Marin Veterans' Memorial Auditorium. Call 444-8000. ▼

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Strange interlude

'Wisconsin Death Trip' at the Castro

by Robert Julian

On a 1 to 10 weirdness scale, *Wisconsin Death Trip* rates about a 23. Writer/director James Marsh somehow manages to transfer Michael Lesy's 1973 work of nonfiction to the screen with not only its title, but its sensibilities intact. Lesy's original photo-essay book about the town of Black River Falls, Wisconsin from 1890-1900 uses historic photos and newspaper articles from the era to tell the rather sordid story of daily life in this rural community. Marsh uses many of Lesy's photos and his text, supplemented by recreations of 19th-century events and color footage of Black River Falls' contemporary residents. The result is a compelling and twisted Errol Morris-style documentary that leaves

the viewer wide-eyed and weirded-out. Sorry, there's no other way to put it.

In the final decade of the penultimate century, Black River Falls descends into a depression. There is a bleak winter, the coal mines close, and banks collapse. Unemployment, insanity, murder, diphtheria, and adultery all appear with alarming frequency in newspaper reports. With Ian Holm's voiceover narration, these stories unfold in glorious black and white. Some are brief stand-alone episodes, and others — like the cocaine-addicted widow who is a compulsive window-smasher — become recurring themes in Marsh's film.

Cinematographer Egil Bryld does a great job in both the contemporary color footage and the recreations. The black-and-white footage is particularly evocative,

and the actors (many are current Black River Falls residents) mirror the historic photos, creating seamless visual transitions. The filmmaker, like the author before him, successfully obliterates the stereotypical image of rural Midwestern America as a place of bucolic bonhomie and pastoral glories. The film's subtext proclaims that it was hell out there, and some of the modern-day footage implies that things may not have changed all that much.

In his choice of material and editorial decision-making process, Marsh may be a bit

heavy-handed. He might also be accused of taking a cheap shot at modern-day Black River Falls (pop. 3,700). When he shows the mayor touting the glories of the town, then has a policeman tell of a recent decapitation and domestic violence, subtlety goes right out the window, along with some

credibility. But all things considered, Marsh provides a good adaptation of Lesy's book, and provides a pretty wild ride at the same time. ▼

Wisconsin Death Trip plays the Castro Theatre Jan. 2-9.



Historic photos, newspaper articles and recreations all figure in *Wisconsin Death Trip*.

Top 10 films

◀ Arts cover

poetry, his and Walt Whitman's. *L.I.E.* is finally the story of a boy who finds what's in a long dark night of the soul.

2. Our Lady of the Assassins Director Barbet Schroeder miraculously opens up Colombian Fernando Vallejo's novel, mostly a long philosophical monologue by a flamboyantly open gay writer who has returned to his hometown to die. Since that hometown happens to be Medellín, home to Colombia's most ruthless drug gangs, Fernando becomes a witness to death.

Introduced by an old friend to the most beautiful boy in town, Fernando soon discovers that Alexis is never without a hard-on, a stereo turned up past the point



Lee Kang-sheng and Miao Tien in Tsai Ming-liang's *The River*

Tsai, who has confessed a desire to mask the gay implications of his first five features for the sake of wooing a more mainstream Chinese audience, uses the rituals and dark lighting of the urban gay sex spa to unmask a messy convergence of desire in this very troubled family.

4. Hedwig and the Angry Inch Adapted by its original creators from the off-Broadway rock musical, *Hedwig* tells the bitterly funny story of a new woman scorned. It's like a musical comedy by German bad boy Rainer Werner Fassbinder. Hedwig (director John Cameron Mitchell), born Hansel on the wrong side of the Berlin Wall, agrees to undergo a sex change in order to marry a charming rogue of an American G.I. The operation botched (resulting in the angry inch), and dumped by his man, Hedwig

turns to rock 'n' roll for solace. Rejecting his genitals and stealing his heart and his songs, wannabe teen-rocker Tommy (Michael Pitt) marches on to worldwide fame in a series of big-hair stadium concerts. Seeking revenge, Hedwig forms The Angry Inch band and shadows Tommy, appearing as a novelty act in a tacky chain of seafood restaurants. Hedwig plays this kooky premise for all it's worth, in the process creating a genuinely engaging brand of rock theatre, a bizarre entertainment with an odd mix of sentiment and flashy but engaging kitsch.

5. Tom Clay Jesus It doesn't get any better than Vietnamese-born American filmmaker Hoang A. Duong's multilayered short film, a vivid examination of a one-night-stand. Tom, a New York

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Anderson Ballesteros and German Jaramillo in *Our Lady of the Assassins*

of pain, and a fully-loaded pistol. Alexis is one of an army of street kids, each packing heat, and each expecting to die in the city's never-ending street-corner turf wars. Shooting in deep-focus digital video one jump ahead of Medellín's real-life carnage, Schroeder gives his old hometown a colorful makeover, his palette explicating the sins of a civilization gone quite mad in pursuit of money and power. The film's sympathetic portrayal of ongoing pederasty makes sense in a world where almost nothing else does.

3. The River In most of the serio-comic urban Taiwanese fables by Malaysian-born Tsai Ming-liang, sex trumps every other connection between the characters.

Xiao-Kang and his parents at first appear to be little more than a trio of dysfunctional roommates — the mother is having an affair with a man who pirates pornographic movies, and the father makes furtive visits to gay sex clubs. Tsai employs a fixed camera, which results in his characters appearing trapped within the frame, and the audience having the slightly queasy sensation of observing bugs caught under glass.

The technique is intensified by having intimate scenes between two characters staged against the canvas of a crowded but impersonal setting — the father's act of picking up a slinky rent-boy is set at a Taipei branch of McDonald's.

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Riches in the listening

Classical CD picks from the year 2001

by Jason Serinus

The past year was distinguished by a plethora of glorious new and reissued recordings. Though I found the time to audition only a fraction of the discs that won the annual Gramophone and Cannes awards, I heard many that will surely enrich the lives of fine-music lovers for years to come.

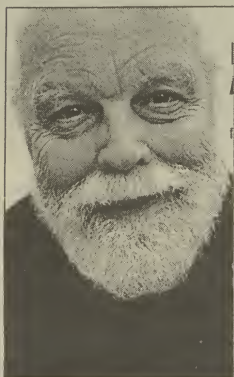


Bach: Goldberg Variations, by Murray Perahia (Sony) In perhaps the most remarkable recording of the year, pianist Perahia transforms Bach's four-minute "aria" and 30 variations into an elevated spiritual exploration. Lift-off occurs in the initial aria, as Perahia connects with the deep spirituality that motivates Bach's writing. The pianism may be flawless, but it is the transcendent, extra-musical dimension of this performance that makes it so extraordinary.



Schubert: Lieders, by Janet Baker (BBC) Containing 19 selections drawn from three live recitals that Dame Janet Baker gave between 1970 and '80, this disc catches the great mezzo-soprano at her peak. Although the

recording lacks translations, the singing is so evocative, the tone so beautiful, that the gay Schubert's genius speaks to us in ways that the heart cannot fail to understand.



Great gay composer Lou Harrison

Rhymes with Silver, Music by Lou Harrison (New Albion) The great gay American composer Lou Harrison, who turns 85 next year, was a mere 80 when *Rhymes with Silver* was written for the Mark Morris Dance Company and cellist Yo-Yo Ma. This wonderful score, rich with Eastern-inspired harmonies and rhythms and colorful contrasts of instrumental timbre, has the words "dance, create and play" resounding in every bar. Harrison chose the musicians and supervised the recording. It's a must hear.



Terry Riley: Requiem for Adam; Kronos Quartet (None-such) This moving collaboration between composer Terry Riley

and the great Kronos Quartet (one of whose members is gay) memorializes first violinist David Harrington's son Adam, who died suddenly at age 16 while hiking with his family. The powerful results, including a second movement which overlays Kronos' playing with a percussive electronic score, enable you to feel the struggle in Adam's body between the pulse of life and the blood clot that stopped its flow. Also included is a piano improvisation honoring Riley's teacher, the late Indian vocalist Pandit Pran Nath.



Viva Vivaldi! Cecilia Bartoli, Il Giardino Armonico (Arthaus Musik) A follow-up to this great mezzo's award-winning Vivaldi CD, this DVD allows you to experience the excitement of Bartoli and Il Giardino Armonico in live recital. The music is wonderful, the performers without peer. Fea-

turing some selections not included on the CD, the DVD enables us to experience Bartoli totally transported by Vivaldi's writing.

Secret Music: A Songbook; David Del Tredici (CRI) American composer Del Tredici, one of whose outrageous *Alice* compositions won the Pulitzer Prize, provides piano accompaniment on this definitive disc of recent compositions. Del Tredici holds nothing back when it comes to celebrating gay life and his own renegade spirit; we are the beneficiaries. Some of the songs are downright fabulous.

Handel: Rinaldo; Academy of Ancient Music, Christopher Hogwood (Decca L'Oiseau-Lyre) With fewer operas being recorded these days, this sterling rendition of Handel's 1711 masterpiece deserves our attention. One cannot get enough of Cecilia Bartoli's beautiful "Lascia ch'io pianga," gay countertenor David Daniels' wondrous coloratura flights and heart-tugging "Caro sposo," and the strength and beauty of Gerald Finley's glorious voice. Also highly recommended is Bartoli's marvelous new Decca recording of Gluck arias.

Bernstein Conducts Bernstein (Deutsche Grammophon) This reissue offers definitive performances of two of Lenny's greatest "classical" compositions: the wonderful orchestral excursion *Serenade*, featuring violinist Gidon

Kremer as soloist; and *Songfest*, a masterful collection of feisty, idiosyncratic, moving songs set to poems that celebrate feminism, freedom, relationship, and gay love.

Hans Werner Henze; Ian Bostridge, Julian Drake (EMI) English tenor Bostridge finds himself equally at home in the 19th-century world of Franz Schubert and Henze's provocative, thoroughly modern excursions. Those who take the time to study the words and listen in silence will find themselves on a fantastic, occasionally grotesque, deeply rewarding journey into the subconscious.

If, however, you wish to venture in a different direction, also highly recommended is Dora Ohrenstein's *Restless Spirits* recital on Koch. A standout amongst the troubled women who populate this adventurous soprano's disc is gay composer Lee Hoiby's hysterical 19-minute scena, *The Italian Lesson*, which will leave opera queens in stitches.

Liederabend; Arleen Augér (Orfeo) This live recital, performed in Salzburg in 1978, finds the great American soprano in radiant voice. Authentically accompanied on hammerklavier by Erik Werba, Augér's poised, perfectly at-ease interpretations offer a rarely-encountered beauty and profundity that illumine familiar songs by Gluck, Haydn, Mozart, and Schubert in a new way. ▼

Top 10 books 2001

by Deborah Peifer

What a year this has been, what a rare mood I'm in, why it's almost like being in love — with reading, that is. This was a year when experienced novelists achieved new heights of excellence, when essayists reminded us of the joys of thinking clearly, when the verb to read became the highest calling, the most exhilarating action, the very best way to spend time. Here are the 10 books that filled my readerly heart with unmitigated joy.

Slammerkin by Emma Donoghue; Harcourt, \$24 Donoghue is a writer of exceptional skill, and her fourth novel is her most ambitious and most fully realized creation of a complete and compelling fictional world to date. Set in the late 18th century, *Slammerkin* tells the tragic story of Mary Saunders, a young woman for whom poverty is an insurmountable obstacle, but who, nevertheless, struggles to find her way in the world. Fascinating, heart-rending, and beautifully written, *Slammerkin* is an always compelling read, even better the second time around.

Navigating the Darwin Straits by Edith Forbes; Seal, \$13.95 Sequels are so often a disappointment that I was fearful when this sequel to the extraordinary *Alma Rose* arrived at my house. I ought to have had more faith in so fine a writer. *Navigating the Darwin*

Straits is a brilliant novel, filled with the richness and texture of everyday lives peopled by extraordinary characters. This is a novel that demands to be read aloud, if only to savor the feel of words perfectly composed tripping melliflously off the tongue.

Rag and Bone by Michael Nava; Putnam, \$24.95 The only thing that saved me from complete despair at the news that this was to be the last Henry Rios mystery was the fact that *Rag and Bone* was so exceptionally well-written that I could not do anything but glory in its wonders. Henry Rios discovered the possibility of happiness in his life, no small thing for Nava's long-suffering hero, and on the way to that realization, enabled us to imagine the possibility for ourselves as well.

The Struggle for Happiness by Ruthann Robson; St. Martin's, \$13.95 Robson explores, through brilliantly and delicately connected tales, what it means to be alive in this world, and the ways in which all of our lives are changed by our interactions with one another. Robson's prose, breathtaking in its elegance and simplicity, mark her as a writer of surpassing greatness.

Onyx by Felice Picano; Alyson, \$24.95 After writing several thematically large novels, Picano returned to a simple tale, exquisitely told, of two lovers, one dying, the other trying to cope with sur-

viving the impending loss of his greatest love, and managed to break our hearts even as he convinced us that the only loss greater than this was never to have loved at all.

Monster: Adventures in American Machismo by Brian Bouldrey; Council Oak, \$22.95 Bouldrey uses the essay form brilliantly to explore what it means to be a man in a world that seems to have both rigid definitions and, at the same time, no idea whatever of what masculinity means. *Monster* had me laughing out loud, sometimes at the same time that I was weeping at the sheer courage of this most gifted writer.

The Splendid Feast of Reason by S. Jonathan Singer; University of California, \$24.95 In response to a devotion to the irrational that seems to threaten the very existence of humans on the Earth, Jonathan Singer provides a cogent argument in favor of the rational life. Always entertaining, often amusing, this *Splendid Feast* proves that being rational is simply a better way to live.

The Betrayal of America: How the Supreme Court Undermined the Constitution and Chose Our President by Vincent Bugliosi; Avalon, \$9.95 Bringing a prosecutor's experience to the judicial coup that ended the election of 2000, Bugliosi reminded us just how injudicious the Supreme justices were

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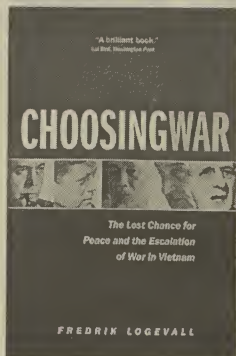
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War stories

by Deborah Peifer

The overwhelming, and to my mind at least, unthinking support of our "war" against Afghanistan suggests that some consideration of other wars, how they happened and why, as well as how they were waged, might be a useful exercise, even in this festive season. The war in Vietnam was the defining moment of several generations, but most especially for the Boomers. The conflict served as a point of negative comparison to the "greatest generation" and its war. Our war was a bloody mess, once gotten into seemingly impossible to abandon, absent goals or objectives. World War II was the closest humans have ever come to a just war, one in which the very meaning of humanity, the existence of civilization was at stake. Two new books offer new insight into these two seemingly opposite wars.

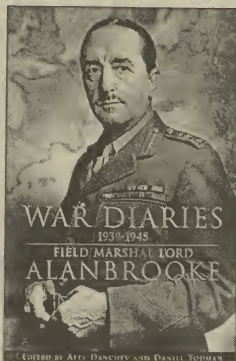
Despite its seeming inevitability at the time, there was a moment when the US might have opted out of the impossible conflict in Vietnam. In *Choosing War: The Lost Chance for Peace and the Escalation of War in Vietnam* (University of California, \$19.95), Fredrik Logevall takes us step by painful step through the period between August 1963 and July 1965, when desperate politicians tried to find a solution to the insuperable. Logevall writes with clarity and a blessed absence of



jargon, reminding us at each juncture that, though giving peace a chance was a choice not taken, there always was a choice.

Looking at the wider picture, Logevall argues that the decision of the US to stand alone against world opinion guaranteed a disastrous outcome. One can only wish that the current resident of the White House might have the dangers of unilateralism explained so clearly to him.

Of course there are thousands of books about WWII, but few that were written contemporaneously and by someone who was in the very thick of things from the earliest days of 1939 to the con-



clusion. Field Marshal Lord Alan Brooke, for most of the war Chief of the Imperial General Staff and military advisor to Winston Churchill, kept a diary throughout the war, and the result, *War Diaries 1939-1945* (edited by Alex Danchev and Daniel Todman; University of California, \$40), is an extraordinary journey through some of the darkest and most heroic days in human history.

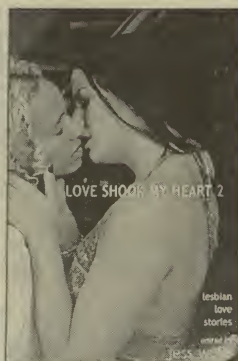
It serves also to illuminate the great love story of Alan Brooke and his wife.

Alan Brooke wrote the diary as a series of letters to his wife, letters she could not read until after the war, and so the tone is personal and often very moving. His dedication explains: "This book is not intended to be a diary of events, although it may contain references to my daily life. It is intended to be a record of my thoughts and impressions such as I would

have discussed with you had we been together." It's clear from his writing that Alan Brooke treasured his wife, and his obvious love for her makes reading the diaries a poignant experience and well as an entertaining and educational one. The section of the diary dealing with the events leading to Dunkirk is as stunning and suspenseful as a good novel. Alan Brooke's uncensored opinions of the great figures of the war may change your opinion of some of them, and not necessarily for the better. *War Diaries 1939-1945* is a compelling work, not to be missed by anyone interested in WW II.

Heart-shakers

Jess Wells (*The Price of Passion*) is a novelist of extraordinary talent, but she has also become an editor of such skill that her name on an anthology of short fiction serves as a guarantee of highest quality. Her latest is *Love Shook My Heart 2* (Alyson, \$14.95), a fine collection of lesbian love stories that remind us of the happy highs and devastating lows of that thing called love. I was particularly moved by Karen X. Tulchinsky's touching tale of love in an old people's home, "Penny a Point." Ruthann Robson's breathtaking narrative of love in a grocery store ("The Grand Union") made me want to rush to Safeway and linger expectantly at the deli counter. Wells includes an excerpt from her forthcoming novel, *The Mandrake Bloom*, which whets the appetite for more, even as it stands on its own as a powerful tale of

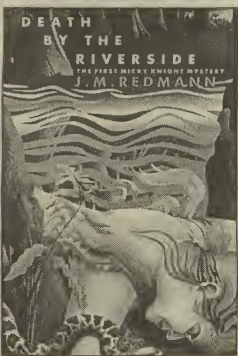


jealousy and obsession.

Saved by the Bell(a)

Bella Books has rescued two out-of-print lesbian classics, so those of you who made the mistake of lending your copies of *Death by the Riverside*, the first Mickey Knight mystery (by J. M. Redmann; \$11.95) and *Chicken* (by Paula Martinac; \$11.95) can replace the

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Top 10 books

◀ previous page

when they selected the Shrub as President. He made the case, clearly, compellingly, that the Gang of Five belong behind bars for its criminal and despicable action.

Who's Afraid of Leonard Woolf: A Case for the Sanity of Virginia Woolf by Irene Coates; Soho, \$25 Coates argues that Leonard Woolf was not the saint he claimed to be, but rather that his treatment of Virginia was contemptible and vile. Using Leonard's own words, Coates proves beyond question

that Virginia's suicide was the result of Leonard's chicanery, not her own demons. As readable and suspenseful as a good mystery, *Who's Afraid of Leonard Woolf* offers a new and complex look at one of the great literary marriages of the 20th century.

The Sappho Companion by Margaret Reynolds; St. Martin's, \$27.95 Every lesbian knows who Sappho was, but our knowledge is not necessarily accurate. Reynolds traces the history of that enigmatic figure with skill and grace. Using literary and historical writings to flesh out her portrait, Reynolds offers a range of Sapphos from which to choose our own iconic figure. ▼

Manpower

Best of 2001 pop CDs

by Gregg Shapiro

No one is more surprised than I am at the number of male artists, gay and straight, in this best of 2001, end-of-the-year list of albums. I've never hidden the fact that I prefer female singer/songwriters to males, but this list speaks for itself. Behold, my picks for the best albums of 2001:

1. Rufus Wainwright - *Poses* (Dreamworks)
2. Amy Ray - *Stag* (Daemon)
3. Sam Phillips - *Fan Dance* (Nonesuch)
4. Nathan Larson - *Jealous God* (Artemis)
5. (tie) Hedwig & The Angry Inch OST (Hybrid) / *The Producers* OCR (Columbia)
6. Le Tigre - *Feminist Sweepstakes* (Mr. Lady)
7. (tie) Basement Jaxx - *Rooty* (Astralwerks) / Gorillaz - *Gorillaz* (Virgin)
8. Shea Seger - *The May Street Project* (RCA)
9. (tie) Death By Chocolate - *Death By Chocolate* (Jetset) / The Avalanches - *Since I Left You* (Modular/Sire)
10. Alice Ripley - *Everything's Fine* (Sh-K-Boom)

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Thanks for the memories — Part II

A job well done

by Mister Marcus

The San Francisco leather community continued throughout the year with all the regular events including the Leathermen's Discussion Group, the Harvey Milk Institute, and The Ring, all learning experiences.

Bike clubs hosted beer busts all year, amassing funds for charitable endowments. The Imperial Court launched monthly dinners at various restaurants, and the erotic play groups hosted play parties via The 15 Association, The Sling and Castlebar. The leather/bdsm women via the Exiles promoted safe sex as well with demos and lectures with recognized experts.

The bare-chest calendar men won their laurels. The final six winners will be auctioned off at the Eagle with a beer/soda bust including food on Sunday, January 6 at 1500 hours, with Lenny Broberg auctioning them off.

The 2003 calendar contests begin anew with Mr. January 2003 being chosen at the Powerhouse on Thursday, January 10. Lots of out-of-town contestants are expected to participate in 2002.

So with everything seemingly in place and an optimistic outlook for next year, let's trip through the final six months of 2001:

July

Allen Spo of Los Angeles was named International Mr. Deaf Leather 2002 in Seattle this year, one of the most successful ever to date. No female title was offered this time around. . . That cute Mr. Edge Leather, Eric Bernier, staged a hugely successful "Boot Camp" benefit at his home bar. . . The Castro Lions annual Leather Auction at the Eagle was a smash hit. . . The Edge Bar celebrated its 10th anniversary this month. . . Lazy Bear Weekend at the RushRiv was beyond all expectations. . . J.J. Ferra was chosen Mr. Alameda Co. Leather, and "Kat" Matthews Ms. Alameda Co. Leather. . . Robert Davolt was chosen Leather Daddy XIX. . . The Dore Alley Fair was another record-setting attendance affair. . . The Bare Chest Calendar Reunion put together by

Ross Dierking and his committee was a hit with almost 150 past winners in attendance. . . Robert Espindola was chosen No. Calif Drummer, and David McCarty the Drummer Boy.

Mister S Leather expanded their business hours and opened a Madame S store across the street with lots of latex and handsome Andre English running the show. . . The 10th Anniversary of the Leather Archives & Museum extravaganza was postponed for a later date (only one person registered for the weekend and we know who that was! . . . In Providence, Rhode Island, Nagrom Monceaux

was chosen Mr. Ocean State Leather, Kate McGuire, Ms. Ocean State and Kip Davidson, Ocean State Leather Boy.

August

Regional Drummer contests continued all summer with no one realizing this would be the final year of the Drummer titles. .

The meticulously planned and excellently executed first ever Leather/Levi Weekend at Saratoga Springs was a smashing success due to the leadership of Mario Torrigino and his fabulous committee. . . Eulenspiegel Society in NY celebrated their 30th anniversary with the Who's Who? Of leather there. . . Shake-up at the Loading Dock with a new manager (Dock Master) and assistant (Dock Foreman). Right now, it looks like Stuart Donat is the Dock Master and doing a great job. . . Northwest US got involved with the Drummer title again when Mark Colter staged the regional NW Drummer contest - a smashing success. At this event, the formation of the Leather Scholarship Fund by the Pride Foundation was announced. . . Opposition reared an ugly head when plans were announced to raise the Leather Pride Flag in the Castro during Leather Week. Wiser heads prevailed, and in the end the flag flew proudly for all to see. . . Ms. World Leather 2001 was staged in Dallas, Texas — a resounding success won by Annie Romano-Blas of San Diego and Mindy Chateauvert of Washington, DC the runner-up. We love success!



Gay Pride Parade Grand Marshal "Mama" Reinhardt (l.) congratulates Ms. World Leather 2001 Annie Romano-Blas.

September

Brian Stevens was chosen SF Leather Daddy's Boy XIX. . . The gigantic Leather Pride Flag was raised in the Castro, and the Leather Pride Walk was a huge success. . . Eagle Tavern celebrated its 4th anniversary with a wild party. . . Jeff Johnston was chosen Mr. Cheeks & Chaps. . . Six of the 2002 Bare Chest Calendar men were auctioned off for another record-breaking total but alas, several divorces in the group. . . Handsome Dr. Rob Carabelli was named Mr. New Jersey Leather. . . The embattled Audrey Joseph staged a mammoth and successful fundraiser for NY firefighters and their families at Club Townsend and Lily Tomlin made an appearance. . . Kevin Casey of Los Angeles was chosen the first ever Mr. Leather of ALL California and goes on to compete at ABW in April 2002. . . Folsom Street Fair was a smashing success with another record attendance (even that cute Mr. Atlanta Eagle Brian Copeman showed up for this one). . . The success of the fair was later acclaimed with SMMILE distributed \$293,000 to their beneficiaries. As I said earlier: We Love Success!

October

Oedipus MC of Los Angeles celebrated their 43rd anniversary. Mr. Europe Leather 2002 was named in Stuttgart and Mr. Italy won the title! Final Drummer contest in the US was staged in St. Petersburg, Florida and Gary Van-

next page ►

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Saturday, December 29

Final play party of The 15 Association at the usual place. \$10/members, \$15/guests who must arrive with you. For more info, call 673-9452 or email to: steve@backdoor.com.

Monday, December 31

Happy New Year! Celebrate at the Powerhouse with the Brig 2002 Party, \$5 advance, \$10/door with golden shower shot toast at midnight and wet jockstrap contest.

Weekend long extravaganzas at Club Townsend with blockbuster theme parties, live wild animals, pyrotechnics. Don't miss this one!

Wednesday, January 2

Leathermen's Discussion Group showcases "Temporary & Play Piercing" by Daddy Roger of Gotham Piercing, at 1930 at Club Eros. It's free!

Thursday, January 3

In Los Angeles? Check out the 17th anniversary of the Gauntlet II bar and their Mr. Gauntlet II Leather contest tonight. Winner competes at Mr. L.A. Leather 2002 in March

Sunday, January 6

2002 Bare Chest Calendar dinner date auction at the Eagle, 1500-1800, \$8 beer/soda bust, food. Lenny Broberg auctions them off!

Tuesday, January 8

Bondage Buddies at 933 Harrison St. Doors open 2100 to 2300, play to 0200 next day. For info, call 777-HEAD.

Wednesday, January 9

Get wet for the first time in 2002 at Golden Shower Buddies (933 Harrison), doors open 2000-2300. Walk in, float out. 777-HEAD.

Saturday, January 12

Regiment of the Black & Tans stage "Mr. Regiment Leather 2002" contest at the Faultline bar at 2100. Winner advance to Mr. L.A.

Sunday, January 13

Golden Gate Guards MC beer/soda bust for \$7 at the Lone Star Saloon. No details at my deadline.

At Daddy's, "The Weakest Drink" contest, when bartenders will be tested on mixology and bar trivia with a \$7 beer/soda bust.

POLKSTRASSE

Party New Year's

by Sweet Lips

Polk Street is the place to be on New Year's Eve 2002! The party at The Cinch Saloon starts going at 10 p.m. with a great crew on board, and all the New Year's trimmings you'd expect!

Tyler of Kim's has many surprises planned on both floors of the club. They'll be rocking the new year in with alternative tunes and DJs. Plus, Tyler says he'll lick your ornaments if you promise to come out.

The N'Touch will be ringing

the new year in with style, with a champagne party and hordes of beautiful Asian boys.

The ever-popular Club Rendez-Vous will feature a special show by the Men of Erotica at 11 p.m. Bring a tip for their socks and join in the fun.

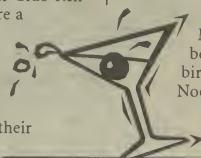
Reflections has their usual New Year's Baby behind the bar, Mikey, plus party favors, champagne and a buffet at midnight.

The popular Johnny Wise will be on the plank at the Gangway Bar, with a buffet.

On New Year's Day, the popular Mame of Portland will be celebrating her birthday starting at Noon with breakfast snacks at the Club

Rendez-Vous, with Yours Truly, Sweet Lips, dispensing drinks and holiday wit.

Here's to a great new year 2002. ▼



Cocktail Hour

Mister Marcus

◀ previous page

deventer was the winner with Mark S. Greene named the Drummer Boy. . . Marlena's bar staged the first Mr. Hayes Valley Leather contest and Michael Shaefer won it. . . Gwen Evans was named SF Dyke Boy and Kim Corneau was chosen Dyke Girl at the El Rio. . . Triple R hosted the Mr. Triple R Leather contest and Mike Anderson won it. So many other titles were awarded; there is not enough room to list them all. Sorry.

November

Leather Weekend at the Russian River was a big deal and Rodger Jensen was named Mr. North Coast Leather and competes at IML next May. . . In spite of it all, Jake is still without child. . . Same weekend, Jason Campbell and Nicole Kimmel were chosen

Mr/Ms Santa Clara Co. Leather. . . SMMILE distributed \$293,000 to their charities from both Dore and Folsom Fairs. . . Dame May Whitty threatened to disrupt a Leathermen's Discussion Group presentation but couldn't get anyone to participate. . . Boring: people who are all mouth, attitude and jealousy. . . Bare Chest Calendar contest duties transferred to AEF and Positive Resources. . . Daddy's Bar celebrated its 6th anniversary and named Briggs Hawley the Daddy of the Year, and Nick Mills, Employee of the Year. Also, Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt was named the Mommy of Daddy's for life. . . In Toronto, Bill Dearsley was named Toronto Leather Man 2002 and David Forget chosen Mr. Leather Fellowship.

December

The date for Mr. SF Leather 2002 was announced as being on Friday, March 8, 2002 at Club

Townsend. . . Omar and Ho's Xmas party was a success. . . Leather Holiday Brunch at Harvey's SOMA too with Mark Paladini and Biff Wilson named Volunteers of the Year. . . Donna Sachet's "Songs of the Season" a smash hit. . . All the clubs had great Xmas parties. . . Vern Stewart emceed the Mr. NY Eagle Leather 2002 contest and David Oravez won the title. . . Tenderloin Tessie and AEF Holiday dinners 3 days ago were well attended and appreciated. Check out the Powerhouse on New Year's Eve, and big, big, big doings at Club Townsend!

Happy New Year!

Yes, it was a good year despite the dark times, and I hope you were involved with some of the events that raised money, consciousness and spirits! Continue in 2002 - keep living, loving and laughing. . . just do it in leather! See you all next year!!! ▼

Theatre 2001

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lucky, maybe we'll see Elaine Stritch's celebrated turn here in 2002). But **Donna McKechnie's** life turned out not to be all that fascinating, at least what she revealed of it, and her attempt to recreate her big dance number from *A Chorus Line* was a big mistake.

Bea Arthur did better with her one-woman collection of stories, songs, and dirty jokes, but surprisingly enough, the best of this lot came from an intense **Charles Nelson Reilly**, who really managed to conjure up the odd worlds through which he has moved.

Sondheim celebration

It was a banner year for **Stephen Sondheim** on local stages, including the once-in-a-lifetime *Sweeney Todd* at Davies Hall. An all-star cast, the San Francisco Symphony and Choir, and Sondheim himself helped reaffirm this difficult musical's place as a masterpiece of the musical theater.

TheatreWorks, which has a yen for lesser-seen musicals, offered a sumptuous staging of Sondheim's Kabuki-inspired *Pacific Overtures*. And over in Walnut Creek, the upstart Venus Rising Company presented a no-frills but effective production of *Assassins*, another show that Sept. 11 will render invisible for quite a while.

Star turns

A promised Broadway run of *Tallulah* starring **Kathleen Turner** never materialized after its San Francisco run, officially because no theater was available, but obviously because it was a lousy show.

Holly Hunter brought some



The Laramie Project at Berkeley Rep was a highlight of the year.

star power, and an intense performance, to San Jose Rep in *By the Bog of Cats*. Her star power also allowed her to send to Los Angeles for a slinky designer wedding dress, even though her character was ostensibly poor Irish tinker living in a trailer home.

We also got to see two theatrically oriented stars in concerts. **Bernadette Peters** was engaging but a little unfocused at the Orpheum (and her voice gave out before the run was over). And **Betty Buckley** was enthralling with just a piano at the Geary Theater. Unfortunately, ACT has decided not to continue this concert series it began last year with **Barbara Cook** as a regular thing.

Construction sites

In 2001, three theater structures opened in Berkeley, obviously a happening town. Berkeley Rep used its comfortable local Roda Theatre for *The Laramie Project*, the compelling study of a town undone by Matthew Shepard's murder.

The Aurora Theatre opened in the same block with a slightly larger version of the intimate the-

ater it is noted for. And a converted church became home to the Transparent Theatre, which scored a hit with gay playwright Robert O'Hara's *Brave Broad*.

Last year's major edifice story was the renovation and reopening of the York Theatre as the **Brava Theater Center**. But after producing a season of plays, Brava seemed to drop off the theatrical radar. Then, last week, the NEA awarded Brava a \$13,000 grant to underwrite a new play by **Anne Galjour**, indicating that the theater may just be on hiatus.

Final fancies

In addition to the shows cited above, here are some of the other productions that caught our fancy during the past year: *"Master Harold" . . . and the boys* and *Glen-garry Glen Ross* at ACT, Claudia Shear in *Dirty Blonde* at Theatre on the Square, *Howie the Rookie* at the Magic, *Late Nite Catechism* at the Union Square Theatre, *Lady in the Dark* at the Marin Theatre Company, and *Summer of '42* at TheatreWorks.

And here's to a year when tragedies stay mainly on the stage. ▼

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OUT & ABOUT

Calendare

by Mark Mardon

Whew!

I always know I'm at the right party when Robert Bray and John Church show up. It was just last night — or was it another time and dimension — that I was hanging out on a couch with the lovely bi-city couple (John's living in LA while he goes to film school), chatting about this and that as my favorite deejay played my favorite trance tunes. I think of Robert as a prime mover-and-shaker in this city, working tirelessly for progressive causes and gay liberation, and knowing everybody worth knowing, and then some. His hubby John is my favorite undiscovered filmmaker, and certainly the cleverest queer film theorist I've ever encountered. But the thing that most impresses me about this duo is their nose for where the city's hippest vibes are going down. And there they were, sitting right next to me, with a party pressing all around, everybody in heaven — and I had a serene feeling that everything's going to be okay. Our world is going to hang together. It's going to be a bit rough going for a while, but there's a powerful spirit holding together this queer community, as well as the whole of San Francisco's mixed populace and even the seemingly indestructible populace of the United States. Things are going to get better. In the way of art, in fact, things are going to get great.

I put out these optimistic sentiments because, as Robert noted of this column, it accurately reflects my moods. Just a few weeks ago, my mood was still quite dark, my worries over the war reflected in the events I chose to highlight in the "Out & About" calendar, and the way I characterized the climate in which we've recently found ourselves — all bleakness, with precious little light.

As 2001 wraps up, it seems love may yet triumph. Hatred has pushed forward with its planes, guns and bombs, but the response has been a gusher not of oil, but of compassion. I speak not of George W.'s brand-name "conservative compassion," but something much more fundamental — the resolve of the American spirit not only to carry on in the face of adversity, but to learn, grow and aim for some kind of higher grace. Rather than the all-out hawkishness I feared, the country seems to be in the mood to care for its injured, weak, sick, and even the homeless people. Everybody seems to want peace more than ever. It's in our gut. The cops want to keep order, of course, and they're putting on a tough show, but those same cops are showing a human side we've rarely seen before, not the made-for-TV posturing about doing good for kiddies, but a realization on their part that we're all in this together, and we stand or fall depending on our attitudes toward our community and neighbors.

So here's a toast to all the faeries, artists, musicians, stoners, cops (especially Jane Warner in the Castro), assorted wanderers and wayfarers, poets, writers, readers, office workers, doctors, lawyers and Indian Chiefs in the greater San Francisco Bay Area GLBTQ community. ▼



New Year's Hit: Abigail sings live at "Superball" at 550 Barneveld. See Monday.

Eri

Castro Theatre

"Female Trouble," the Director's Cut, the John Waters' classic starring Divine in all her tacky, tasteless glory. Remastered sound brings out stuff you've never heard before. Restored footage lets you see extra-added obnoxious scenes. As Dawn Davenport, Divine personifies Beauty and Crime, and gets the chair for it. David Lochary and Mary Vivian Pearce co-star as the diabolical beauty shop owners Donald and Donna Dasher, who mold Divine's rise to the top of the heap. A truly filthy, repugnant, repulsive and priceless film. Daily at 2, 4:30, 7, & 9:20pm. Thru Jan. 1. Info: 621-6120.

Paradise Lounge

"Party for the Bands: War Is Hell...So Let's Party In Paradise," presented by Storm Inc., Serial Carpens, Luxt, Beanweevils. It's time once again for "The Annual Holiday Musicians Appreciation Party" at the Paradise Lounge. That means: all musicians, bookers, promoters, managers, club owners / wait & barstaff / bar sweepers & swamper and all local industry types who've somehow survived one more year under the dismal conditions in this ghost of a scene, converge and convene at the embattled yet still somehow open and functioning Paradise Lounge. Private with free food and swill from 6-8:30pm. After 9pm the rock will be brought to all. Free till 9pm. \$12 after. 1501 Folsom (corner of 11th). Info: 621-1911.

Cafe Du Nord

Sultry chanteuse Lavay Smith & Her Red Hot Skillet Lickers evoke a sensuous era of jazz queens and sexy pinups and adds a modern, feminist twist. Whether singing her own compositions or drawing on a large repertoire of classics, Lavay and her all-star 8-piece band bake up an instant recipe for good times. Classic Vintage Jazz and Blues. \$8 cover at 9pm; show at 10pm. 2170 Market St. (btwn Church & Sanchez). Info: 861-5016; www.cafedunord.com

George Krevsky Gallery

Closing: you have only today and tomorrow left to check out Debra Walker's powerful political art — or the art of politics. Her oil-on-canvas creations depict democracy at work. It inspires patriotic feelings without being cloying,

condescending, or soporific. You might call this the art of freedom. 77 Geary St. Info: 397-9748.

Sat

177 Townsend

Club Universe presents "A Night in Asia," with DJs Alex Lauterstein, Matthew Baker and David Harness. In the back room: Polynesian Islands laid-back beats and smooth rhythms by DJ Jamie J. Visions of erupting volcanoes and palm trees. \$20 or \$75 three-party weekend pass. 9:30pm-7am. 21+ w/ID. Tix: 1-888-TIX-ONLY; CD Record Rack; Injeanious; 177 Townsend Box Office. Info: clubuniverse.com

Synergy School

Queer Jitterbugs celebrate the New Year with "Queer Swing & Salsa." Lessons at 6:30pm; party at 9pm. \$10 for both lessons & party. 1387 Valencia St. (at 24th St.).

Sun

177 Townsend

Pleasuredome presents "African Safari," with DJs Jeff Johnson and Neil Lewis, plus a special exclusive performance by Pepper Mashay. Roam the wilds of Africa (the animals are real). Watch Tarzan & Jane take to the Air. In the backroom: "Spain" with DJ Jamie J. Run with the Bulls and party Ibiza style. \$30 or \$75 three-party weekend pass. 8pm-8am. 21+ w/ID. Tix: 1-888-TIX-ONLY; CD Record Rack; Injeanious; 177 Townsend Box Office. Info: clubuniverse.com

Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, Oakland

Barbara Price productions invites all to celebrate the coming New Year with an annual Community Sing. Featuring Grammy-nominated Bay Area musician/producer Linda Tillery, who will be joined by Vicki Randle of Jay Leno's Tonight Show Band, pianist/composer Mary Watkins, and singer/dancer Evie Ladin from the Bay Area band CrossPulse. Songbooks for everyone. \$20 adv.; \$23 door. Two shows: 1:30pm & 5:30pm. 1650 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. Info: (510) 339-1832.

Cafe Du Nord

"Junk," the return of the fierce queer bar for dykes, faggots, butches, femmes, switch tops, bottoms,

tomboys, sissies, transies and more. DJs spin punk, funk, triphop, big beat, rai, bhangra, eighties, tango, big band swing salsa, samba, disco, ska and whatever. \$5. 9pm-2am. 2170 Market St. (btwn Church & Sanchez). Info: 861-5016; www.cafedunord.com

Mon

Victoria Theatre

Theatre Rhinoceros and the Victoria Theatre present "New Year's Eve Stand-up Spectacular," starring some of gay San Francisco's favorite comics: Tom Ammiano, Karen Ripley, Pippi Love-Stocking, Lisa Geduldig, and Bridget Schwartz, hosted by Theatre Rhino Artistic Director Doug Holsclaw. \$22. 8pm. 2961 16th St. Tix: 861-5079.

Mission Presbyterian Church

The Community Music Center Orchestra and Chorus, conducted by Urs Leonhardt Steiner, present the Tenth Annual New Year's concert: Beethoven's *Symphony No. 9*, including the choral finale, the "Ode to Joy." Featuring soprano Susanna Tchoubarian, mezzo-soprano Karen Carle, tenor John Davey-Hatcher, and bass baritone John Minagro. Also Antonin Dvorak's *Cello Concerto* and Michael A. Kimbell's "Rondino Capriccioso." \$15. 9:30pm. 3261 23rd St. (at Capp). Also on Jan. 1, 4pm at Mission Dolores Basilica (Dolores & 16th St.). Info: Community Music Center, 647-6015.

Harvey Milk Civil Rights Academy

Living Sober presents its traditional New Year's Eve Dance. \$10-\$15 sliding (NO-TAFLOF). AA/Al-Anon meeting at 8pm, followed by dance. 8pm. 4233 19th St. (at Collingwood). Info: 978-2478.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, Berkeley

The San Francisco Chamber Orchestra, conducted by Edgar Braun, perform Beethoven's *Overture to Egmont* and *Violin Concerto in D*, and Mendelssohn's *Symphony #3* ("Scottish"). Featuring violinist Nathan Olson. \$15 suggested donation. 8pm. 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tix/info: (415) 564-8417; www.sfchamberorchestra.org

The Plush Room

Wesla Whitfield, jazz vocalist supreme and 2001 SFSU Alumna of the Year, joins pianist/arranger Mike Greensill and bassist Dean Reilly for



Power Shake, oil on canvas, 2001, by Debra Walker, at George Krevsky Gallery. See Friday.



Divine returns to the Castro in *Female Trouble*, the Director's Cut. See Friday.

"Romancing New Year's Eve," a presentation of her favorite romantic songs. No setting could be more romantic for New Year's than the elegant Plush Room. \$80 inclusive package (call for details). 10pm. York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix/info: (415) 885-2800.

Grand Hyatt, Union Square

Bay Area Career Women present "An Evening of Elegance," their 20th Annual New Year's Eve Dinner Dance, featuring the superior DJ stylings of Page Hodel. Surround yourself with 300 beautiful women, 600 high heels, and 1,200 glasses of champagne. Dinner & dancing: \$125 members; \$150 non-members. Dancing only (after 10pm): \$45 members, \$50 non-members. 7pm-2am. Tix/info: www.bacw.org

Space 550

Gus presents "Superball: New Year's 2002," with a live performance by Abigail ("You Set Me Free," Groovacious Records) and the DJ sounds of David Knapp (NYC), Ra (Miami), and Frank Abraham (SF). Midnight performance by The Glitter Boys. \$40 adv.; \$50 door. 9pm-9am. 550 Barneveld (at Oakdale & Industrial). All-American Boy; Body; Gold's Gym Castro; Body Body Wear. Info: guspresents.com

BackFlip/Phoenix Hotel

"2nd Sunday New Year's Eve Bubble Party" featuring The Human League, Steve Masters, and M3, plus Om Lounge and Viva! Recordings VIP Room with DJs Rick Preston and Jon Lemmon. 8pm-2am. 601 Eddy St. (at Larkin). Info: (415) 339-7444; sfnewyearseve.com. Tix: (510) 653-3469.

177 Townsend

"A Night in Rio De Janeiro," a New Year's Eve bash with DJs Matthew Baker and Jamie J, with special guest Lydia Primm. It's Carnival time, with performances by Brazilian dancers Birds of Paradise and diva Carol Lund at midnight. Fireworks, light show and champagne. In the back room: DJs Jeff Johnson and Neil Lewis. Tempt and tease the boys in the red lit windows. Afterhours with DJ David Harness. \$50. 9pm-noon Tuesday. 21+ w/ID. Tix: 1-888-TIX-ONLY; CD Record Rack; Injeanious; 177 Townsend Box Office. Info: clubuniverse.com

1015 Folsom

Release and Ten15 present "United We Dance," a New Year's Eve dance extravaganza featuring Danny Tenaglia ("Be Yourself") doing a 12-hour set, with DJs Behrouz & Didge Kelli and Jason Edwards. Champagne and Crepes-a-Go-Go. Breakfast Buffet and Bloody Mary Bar. 8pm-noon Tuesday. 1015 Folsom St. (at 6th St.). Tix/info: 674-9208; www.releaseesf.com; www.1015.com

26 Mix

Ring in 2002 with DJs Jonah Sharp (Reflective) and Vinnie Esparza (Dis-Joint/KUSF) serving up a tasty variety of dance-floor treats including hip hop, house, raw funk, Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, future jazz and reggae vibes. \$10. 9pm-2am. 21+ w/ID. 3024 Mission St. (btwn 26th & C. Chavez). Info: 826-7378; mail@26mix.com

Regency Building

Anon Salon soars into "Sea of Dreams 02, a New Year's Eve party by the people who do the Burning Man Flambé Lounge. Costumes encouraged. Dress as your dream. In the Hall of Oceans: Lost At Last live on stage (tribal trance); Brain Garden (LA Deep Techno); Fox Glove (Space Age Funk). In Dream-Landia: The Starry-Eyed Subliminous Cabaret with Music, Magic and Circus Eccentricities (Teatro ZinZanni; Cirque

du Soleil); Steven Raspa, Maestro of Disguise; Jill Tracy, chanteuse; Raj Sitar; Sea of Dreams Dancers; DJs Alaric and El Gato, and more. In the Undersea Grotto of AquAmoré: DJs Lorin, Markie, Laird, Mr. Sandman and Kris Nova. \$60. 9pm-4am. 1300 Van Ness (at Sutter). Tix/info: 978-2345; www.TicketWeb.com

Tue

Happy Hangover Day!

Now what was that resolution you made last night? And who is that in your bed?!

Wed

Bazaar Cafe

Singer-songwriter Garrin Benfield hosts the "GLBT Songwriters Series," the best acoustic-music night in San Francisco, in the best venue for down-home folk/funk/rock — a tiny cafe in the Richmond District. Tonight featuring Eighth Note Records recording artist Jallen Rix (*Time on a Chain*), one of those rare composing performers who can send a song right where you feel it the most. He digs deep for a balance between art and mean-

ing. Listeners become friends as Jallen plays the piano and sings honest and vulnerable lyrics. Also featuring Amy "Littlebird" Nuara (a.k.a. h'amy), a passionate performer, an accomplished musician (on folk flutes, harmonica, African percussion, bass, and mandolin as well as acoustic and electric guitar), and a gifted singer. But it's her songwriting — finely etched lyrics brought to life with a diverse musical palette of conga rhythms, Irish folk melodies, gospel-style vocal vamping, acoustic folk guitar delicacies, even classic rock clichés — that will keep you coming back for more. Littlebird is working on her first full-length CD release, *Angels Wait*, due by fall 2001, and assembling a band for regular live performances. 7pm. 5927 California St. Info: www.garrin.com; www.rixart.com; www.littlebirdband.com

The Plush Room

Get back on your feet gracefully with the elegant vocal stylings of Wesla Whitfield, who begins the run of her new show, "California Dreaming," featuring John Witala on bass, and special guest Gary Foster on saxophone. Thru Feb. 2. Info: www.plushroom.com

Thu

Metropolitan Community Church

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence present "Ba-da-Bingo." \$12 for 10 games of bingo with cash prizes up to \$250 per game, special gifts, door prizes, and the antics of the Sisters. Doors open 7pm. 150 Eureka St. (near 18th St.). Info: www.TheSisters.org

WANNA SUBMIT?

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Middle Falls, 2001, by Tom Baril, opening January 3 at Robert Koch Gallery, 49 Geary St. Info: 421-0122; www.kochgallery.com

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PARTING GLANCES

Trapeze Boy W/ Toe Polish
Wed. before Thanksgiving- Steamworks. You live- Walnut Creek/ work- San Ramon. Enjoyed our wrestle. Want to tussle again. You referred to me as "you people". Give a call. ☎ 71230

Flower Market Monday 11/19 9am
I drove up in a white convertible. You were standing there. Beautiful smile, blond, a hoop in each ear. Our eyes met. You waved goodbye. Clearly, we need to connect. ☎ 71231

Walking On Hyde Street
Enjoyed our conversation. Me: coming from B. Peters Concert. You: coming home from work. Please call. ☎ 71232

Castro @ 15th 11/24 Woof!
You stopped for me twice. I should have said hi; bit shy. You thick goatee, cap, jeans. Me start looking for parking. Met again on Castro across from theatre. ☎ 71233

Valentine In Glen Park
You: tall, cute w/great smile. I was walking home from Bart. You drove by & asked if I wanted a ride. Let's meet. ☎ 71249

Terrific Jim Danced @ Nob Hill 12/2
with Gusto & asked my name & was pleased I stayed for 2nd show. (Doubled my pleasure). Can we talk? ☎ 71362

DimHts Safeway Mon 12/3 Chkout
Check-out-you: dark br and running outfit. Me: SF cap, parka, gr br, shirttail out. We cruised in line. At door looked again, I smiled, parking lot again, Call. ☎ 71363

~White Chevron Polo Shirt~
Oakland Airport- black jeans, red beard, white polo shirt with large Chevron logo on back. Let me know how I can reach you and introduce myself. ☎ 71378

December 6th 7:05pm Cafe Flore
We were on the same street car. Then waiter in front of Cafe Flore for our friends that were late. Me: WM you are. ☎ 71379

Ken @ Steamworks 12/14 1am
You came to my room. You: tall, muscled, hairy, clean shaven. Me: shorter, smooth, goatee. Enjoyed playing. Want more! Alan. ☎ 71380

•College Av Oakland 12/11, 2pm•
Me: blue windbreaker, glasses, baseball cap. You: short hair, great smile, Hispanic I think, sitting at sidewalk table as I tied my dogs leash to a tree. Sigh. Call me! ☎ 71381

Bondage Partner(s) Wanted By GWM, 5'11", 165, red/grey, blue, mustache, 52, HIV-
Into tight ropes, gags, creative scenes. UB goodlooking 20-49, bottom (switch?). Struggle, J/O, face/ass fuck, safe sex, N/S, N/D. ☎ 71382

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

WLM 45, 6', 165lbs. ISO Older M
55+ who enjoys affection, kissing & oral pleasure. Regular cigar or pipe smoker, non-gym, facial hair a plus. No gay lifestyle, drugs, attitude. ☎ 71234

I Am Turkish GWM 29, 5'4" 135
Nice, beautiful, slim, ideal. Good loyal, pleasant, serious. I'm looking for Turk, GM from 24 to 32 for love, understanding, friends. Please serious replies only, discretion. ☎ 71365

Searching For Mr. Right
In all the wrong places looking for White male honest sincere a good person good friend long term in shape HIV- Me WM 41 good looking honest HIV- East Bay. ☎ 71368

Navy Vet- 6'2" 225#
Studied educated, successful Sonoma Rancher. GWM buzzed flat top healthy 55yrs. Seeks younger man for mentoring platonic companionship- more if interested hopefully enjoy reading, writing, thinking, conversation, travel, city country. ☎ 71236

Latin, Hairy Or Shorter Guys
How about a date? Attractive, masculine, fun, SWM, 5'9", 155#, buzzed dark blond, goatee, muscular, HIV-, 44, versatile seeks regular guy for movies, dinners, travel, etc. ☎ 71250

~Asian Tops~
Desired by GWM 6'2", 165lbs. who is a bottom and enjoys giving pleasure to Asian men by sucking deep for a long time. ☎ 71251

Skg Ltr Or Dating Relationship
Late 40's GWM, 5'9", furry bear, 185#, amply hung, single, clean and sober, some leather bottom tendencies. Don't have a definite type or age, but young at heart. ☎ 71252

HIV+ Latino
Goodlooking, healthy, 30yr old, 5'7", 160lbs, seeks Whites or Latins under 43 for friendship maybe more. N/S only. Not into clubs, drug scene. ☎ 71354

Oral Expert
Attractive Black male 5'9", 158 48 HIV- shaved head seeks GWM 50 to 65 that's well endowed for hours of joy! ☎ 71355

LTR With Younger Latino Guy
40ish stocky, well endowed versatile top, professional, not in shape, for younger Latino guy, no attitude, love, romantic travel much more. ☎ 71364

Small Penis Seeks Same
Under 6' a/w smooth clean shaven for w/b: curious goodlooking new to S.F. for steady oral relationship, maybe poke my bottom? ☎ 71235

Dad ISO Bottom Boys
Hot muscular dad, thick hairy chest late 40. 5'8", 185, well built ISO cute boyish bottom, 35, HIV- possible relationship. ☎ 71367

SEEKING ADVENTURE

Do Rank Pits/Jockstraps
Give you a boner? Me too. Major jock/pit guy seeks buds 4 sniff/suck fun. I'm 5'8", 150, hry, buzzed, tats, beard ripe ready. 40+, A+ yg, butch, gimme a call! ☎ 71220

Pro Cocksucker And HIV- Bottom
You're not alone big stock or lean guys. Am here to give hot, steamy gyrating movements on all my orifices. Name it, I'll do it. Am Asian, 30's and hot. ☎ 71221

Hungry Bear Manpussy
GWM, 43, 220lbs. Love to get fucked, and suck on meat. Ethnic a plus! West Sonoma County location. ☎ 71237

ISO Stocky Bottom Bear
To suck my 7"x6" cut cock and balls, eat my clean asshole. Me 5'9", 155#, 60's gray/grn daddy type nice guy. My place, days only, herb, aroma ok, hairy+++. ☎ 71238

Vers. Fisting Top Kinky
Fisting fucking vers, top hankies yellow, red, blue. Bk male 40, 5'8", 185 into pumps, videos fisting and other kinks. Your place anytime. ☎ 71239

X-Navy 37 GWM Hot Top Man
Fiery muscle top looking for new recruits for buttcamp. Me: 5'9", 185, smooth and built. ☎ 71240

Sonoma County Oral Service
Hot GWM, 35, looking for oral service. I'm very fit & need relief. We are both HIV-. Give me a call. ☎ 71369

Experience My Juicy Talent
Trim WM 50 gl short beard friendly, has hot mouth for horny Black boy 25+. UB clean, considerate, ready to unload, facefucker A+. Eye contact, verbal A+. Repeats welcome. ☎ 71241

Ride My Bushy Mustache
Hot 42' 6", 170# br/blu seeks hot trim butts to slide down my long tongue. George. ☎ 71242

Space Monkey
Remember Space Monkey in "Fight Club"? Buzzcut, hairy, tough, muscled little fucker? This 5'8", 140# hairy muscled skinhead wants his space monkey buddy to workout, wrestle, party, fuck with. ☎ 71243

My Big Dick-- Your Hot Ass
Plowman 6'4" 190lbs 9"cock will stretch your butthole for prolonged mutual enjoyment. Minorities welcome. Cocksuckers and rimmers ok. ☎ 71244

•Seeking Asian Warmth•
Attractive, gym-toned athletic, professional top to versatile, 47, 6ft, HIV+ healthy-looking GWM seeks cuddly, smart romantic guy for intimacy, good conversation & maybe more. ☎ 71245

Dick Size Doesn't Matter!
Hairy, muscular body does! SF GWM offers stress-reduction for married man 30+ over 5'9" hairy chest, arms, legs, who enjoy just kicking back for massage and servicing. ☎ 71356

Hot N Horny 4 Mild 2 Wild Play
I'm horny Asian needs sex buddy playmate. You: 18-45 only. 5'7" to 6'5" or taller. Any race welcome. Let's have fun. ☎ 71357

•Naked Fantasies•
Photography, strip poker, cop strip search, prison guard, or you name it. Straight-acting masculine guy 43 with lean build seeks similar guy 20 to 40's. ☎ 71358

~Healthy Poz Seeks Same~
For fuckbuddy in shape 52yo vers/top 5'9" 155 gr. eyes brn hair, masculine, handsome grounded, easy going. Ub2. Ht/wt proportionate. N/d, herb ok smoke ok please no emotional baggage. ☎ 71359

VGL Hung BM Seeks Affluent Male
Vgl, 31 yr old BM, physique model, 5'11", cleancut, smooth muscular 195lbs, hung 9 1/2", college educated fun loving, seeks generous, affluent male any age/weight for friendship/fun. ☎ 71222

~Student Wanted~
Uncut British professor and cut partner (both 50, slim) seek uncut submissive boy (18-30) for fun and games and good food. ☎ 71370

Material Muscular Athlete
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Top 10 films

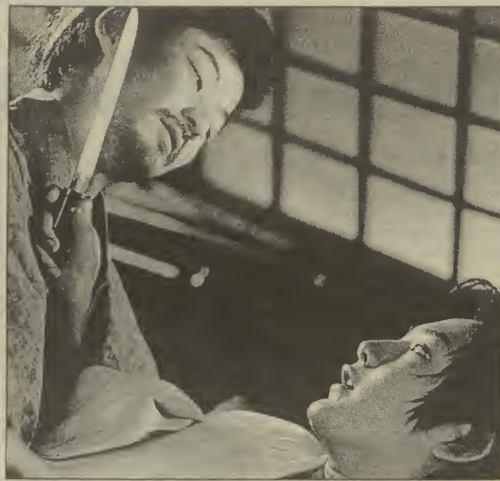
◀ page 31

grad student, picks up Clay, an aspiring actor, in a Manhattan laundromat. A month later, Tom invites Jesus home from the same laundromat. Tom treats sex like an errand that is necessarily repeated but not remembered. To Clay, the encounter becomes a sense memory that lingers. *Tom Clay Jesus* is the best treatment I've seen of the age-old dilemma of why the best sex you've ever had had little resonance with the other party. The film also hints at larger issues, including cross-cultural attractions, physical fetishes, and the inability of some humans to ever really connect with anyone too close at hand.

6. **Taboo** Japanese bad boy director Nagisa Oshima (*In the Realm of the Senses*) has produced the most sublime of his genre-subverting potboilers. *Taboo* unfolds in the spring of 1865, when a rich pretty boy seeks to join a ragtag militia of samurai warriors sworn to defend the last Shogun against the absolutist pretensions of the Emperor. When the sultry Kano (newcomer Ryuhei Matsuda) is asked why he's forsaking the life of a wealthy merchant's son for the black robes of a Shinsengumi soldier, his perfectly-drawn cupid's lips intone, "It's a license to kill."

Kano is soon possessed with a boyfriend and a chorus line of agitated potential suitors. Oshima nimbly strides a fine line, exploiting *Taboo's* potential as both a swordfest and an almost all-male sex farce — in the process, displaying all the cinema moves he learned from the French New Wave masters.

7. **Burnt Money** In the opening shot of *Burnt Money* (Plata



Ryuhei Matsuda and Tadanobu Asano in Nagisa Oshima's *Taboo*

Quemada), Nene (Leonardo Sbaraglia) is doing pushups, his well-stuffed jockey shorts angled nicely towards the camera — obviously, it's an art film. Close to Nene lies his most precious possession, the slumbering torso of Angel (Eduardo Noriega). In the incestuously close world of Argentinean bank-robbers, Nene and Angel are referred to as "the twins," but they're lovers, not brothers.

The trouble in their paradise lurks in Angel's head. He hears voices, a generation's worth of altar-boy guilt and priestly lectures about the wages of fucking your buddy. Director Marcelo Pineyro has a running visual gag where he juxtaposes scenes of the tortured Angel shooting up in the throes of Jesus-inspired dementia while Nene is off getting more conventional kicks in front of a washroom urinal, or in the back row of a third-run cinema. This is the 1965 edition of *Latin Love*, where all pleasure is topped with a huge helping of sadomasochism.

8. **Enlightenment Guaranteed** German director Doris Dörrie's low-key comedy uses a passive-aggressive form of sibling rivalry to demonstrate the old proverb, "The life you save may be your own." On their way to a retreat in a rural Japanese monastery, brothers (A-type) Uwe and (closeted) Gustav first plow through the neon and sushi of nighttime Tokyo. We know they're lost spiritually, but surprise, they're actually lost. The Tokyo scenes play like the time-lapse photography in *Koyaanisqatsi*, pedestrians scampering buglike in all directions. In

contrast, the all-male monastery is viewed almost in slow motion, exerting a calming effect. This is that rare movie which actually elevates the mood of those willing to submit to its charms.

9. **The Monkey's Mask** "You're a great fuck, but a very ordinary detective." Imagine the line coming from ice goddess Kelly McGillis, playing a postmodern English professor ready to shag street-smart lesbian private dick Jill Fitzgerald (Susie Porter), and you have an idea of what to expect from Samantha Lang's saucy noirish thriller. *The Monkey's Mask* is freely adapted from Australian Dorothy Porter's experimental mystery composed in narrative verse. Jill is a hard-as-nails girl who doesn't shave her armpits, and lets her lover shave her legs. Jill confides to Diana that she and her previous girlfriend read to each other until the onset of ennui. Diana purrs, "I promise I won't be like Beatrix Potter."

10. **My Brother Tom** The classic British boarding-school coming-of-age film is savagely updated with an astonishing young cast. Jessica (Jenna Harrison) is a Catholic schoolgirl who faces down some boys who have cornered a scrawny birdlike boy up a tree. Jessica reaches out to the bird boy (Ben Whishaw, who at times bears a chilling resemblance to the young Tony Perkins), and the two begin to meet secretly in the small forest near her house. What starts as a lark in the woods starts to smell of incest as Tom and Jessica swear a kind of blood oath, share terrible secrets, and almost literally try to crawl inside each other. *My Brother Tom* can be quite shocking without being creepy, while giving a worm's-eye view of British teen life, from raves to drunken sleepovers. ▼

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The twisted path of Millay's life

by Yvonne Zipter

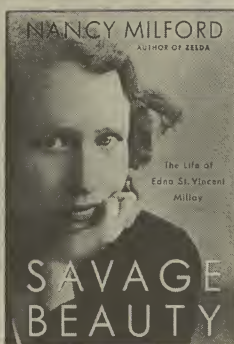
Savage Beauty: The Life of Edna St. Vincent Millay by Nancy Milford; Random House, \$29.95

To be honest, my motivation for reading this biography of Edna St. Vincent Millay was that I'd read she'd been involved with women. Not a big fan of her poetry, or especially familiar with it, I was more interested in learning about the life of one of our sexual foremothers. If you are similarly inclined, my advice is not to bother — or at least to approach this book with caution. Millay's relationships with women other than her mother and her sisters (and more on that shortly) are short-lived and play a relatively minor part in her life. Most of these relationships occurred while Millay was in college, and although one of them was apparently fairly significant to her, it is hardly the focus of the book. As for those relationships with women that occurred later in her life, they were mostly tawdry: generally self-serving one-night stands, often alcohol-induced.

The relationships with women that were lasting were with her mother and sisters, but these are enough to make your skin crawl sometimes: throughout their lives, the sisters often called each other by their childhood nicknames (Sefe, Hunk, and Wump) and wrote to each

other in baby talk ("Po' ole Sefus — Hunk didn't mean to buse him. Please make up — Squeeze & make up? Yes?" wrote Norma to Edna at college.) But it was with her mother that Millay had the creepiest relationship, writing to her, in a letter, "If I didn't keep calling you mother, anybody reading this would think I was writing to my sweetheart. And he would be quite right." In a letter a month later she wrote, "And then, my Best Beloved, you and I will just have ourselves a little honey-moon," adding in a postscript, "Do you suppose, when you & I are dead, dear, they will publish the *Love Letters of Edna St. Vincent Millay & Her Mother?*"

There is nothing to suggest that the two had an actual incestuous relationship, but their level



of "closeness" goes a long way toward explaining Millay's immaturity throughout her life, manifested in the callous ways she often used people, her multifac-

eted self-centeredness, her irresponsibility, and her dependence on drugs and alcohol. This is not a "nice" story, despite the underlying tale of a young woman's rise from poverty and obscurity to become one of the most popular and well-known poets of her day.

Short shift

It is not only the subject matter that makes this a sometimes difficult book to read, however; there is also Milford's manner of telling it. For one thing, there is her unconventional narration style, in which she slyly makes herself a part of the story, interjecting, at various points, her conversations and interactions with Norma Millay, the poet's younger sister, while gathering the materials for the book. In addition, there is at least one seem-

ingly homophobic remark on her part ("In any relationship between two women," Milford says of Millay's college girlfriend, "there is never just one child to be loved. There are two, and their roles are shifting,") as well as sometimes cryptic phrasings, melodramatic-sounding section summations, and odd editorializing (after quoting from a letter that Millay had written in which she says, "I'll be better next time," Milford adds needlessly, "Does anyone ever do better?")

Despite Milford's idiosyncrasies as a chronicler and the frequently sordid nature of the tale, *Savage Beauty* is never dull. If you have a strong constitution, this book will provide you with a compelling look at one of our nation's cultural heroes, blemishes and all. ▼

Merry music: Holiday pop CDs

by Gregg Shapiro

Easily the best of the 2001 crop of holiday music albums, *All Is Calm, All Is Bright* (LML Music) is D.C. Anderson's third seasonal-music CD. A veteran of the musical theater and cabaret scenes, Anderson's tremendous tenor puts the holiday glow on songs by Jane Siberry

("Are You Burning, Little Candle"), Stephen Sondheim ("Three Wishes for Christmas") and Kander & Ebb ("I'm Gonna Be an Angel.") Anderson also includes a couple of originals ("Department Stores Mean Christmas to Me"), as well as brilliant parody songs by Richard Gray ("The UPS Bell Carol," "Dickens Carolers.")

Broadway Cares: Home for the Holidays (Centaur) is a splendid holiday music CD which benefits America's foremost industry-based nonprofit AIDS fundraising organization, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS. The talent assembled is truly amazing and makes this the second must-have holiday CD of the year. The four remarkable duets (Liza Minnelli & Alan Cumming doing "Baby It's Cold Outside," sisters Liz Callaway & Ann Hampton Callaway performing "O Holy Night," "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy" sung by Anthony Rapp & Everett Bradley, and Gary Beach & Roger Bart from *The Producers* having their way with "Silver Bells") are all worth having. Lea DeLaria gives us a jazzy interpretation of "Sleigh Ride," while Davis Gaines turns "Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire" into a Broadway ballad. Daphne Rubin-Vega heats up "Feliz Navidad," and Adam Pascal brings "New York State of Mind" home.

If you've ever been lucky enough to attend one of Jane Olivor's holiday concerts, you know that the nice Jewish girl has an affinity for Christmas music. Her long-awaited album of seasonal songs, *Songs of the Season* (Varese Sarabande), fulfills the promise of her live show. It's a bal-

ance of holiday standards ("Angels We Have Heard on High," "Little Drummer Boy"), new tunes ("You Don't Know How Beautiful You Are") and even a song for the festival of lights, "The Chanukah Song (We Are Lights)."

The five songs on *They Might Be Giants in Holidayland* (Restless) were recorded over the years in very different times and places. The newest of the recordings, "Santa Claus," is a cover of The Sonics' garage-rock classic. "Santa's Beard" is a wonderfully wacky TMBG tune from their *Lincoln* album. John Flansburgh's side project Mono Puff is responsible for "Careless Santa," and TMBG's rendition of "O Tannenbaum" is a live recording made during a TMBG sound-check.

Out, lesbian singer/songwriter Reed takes a mostly traditional (and instrumental) approach on *Not Your Average Holiday CD* (Turtlecub). Playing six- and 12-string guitars, dulcimer, harp, a variety of horns and other instruments, Reed respectfully renders such holiday favorites as "O Little Town of Bethlehem" and "Away in a Manger." It's what she does with the new lyrics she wrote to "Good King Wenceslas," "We Three Kings" and "O Christmas Tree" that make this CD worth having. Her humorous original song, "Christmas Songs," makes reference to a multitude of tinsel tunes.

Scrooge tracks

One of my all-time favorite holiday-music CDs, a movie soundtrack, has been reissued. *The Original Motion Picture Soundtrack to Scrooged* (A&M), a movie that stars Bill Murray as a

modern-day (late-'80s) Scrooge, contains the wonderful Annie Lennox & Al Green duet of "Put a Little Love in Your Heart," a gospel-choir cover of U2's "The Sweetest Thing" by New Voices of Freedom, Natalie Cole's rendition of "The Christmas Song," and "Christmas Must Be Tonight" by Robbie Robertson.

In recent years, Ottmar Liebert, Rick Braun and The Mighty Blue Kings have released CDs of jazzy Christmas music. You can add two more to the list. The various-artists disc *Jazzy Christmas* (Vertical Jazz) features such familiar names as Patrice Rushen, Stanley Clarke and David Benoit. Dave Koz & Friends (among whom you will find Brenda Russell, Kenny Loggins, Braun and Benoit) deliver *A Smooth Jazz Christmas* (Capitol). Koz's album also includes "Eight Candles (A Song for the Holidays)," which has a touch of the Klezmer, and Russell performing her song "Get Here (for the Holidays)."

Anne Murray and Olivia Newton-John, two female vocalists who were legends of the '70s and '80s music scenes, have also released holiday CDs. Murray's *What a Wonderful Christmas* (EMI Canada/Straightway) is a two-disc set of mostly traditional holiday songs sung in her instantly recognizable style. Newton-John's *The Christmas Collection* (Hip-O/ONY) features guest appearances by Loggins and Clint Black ("Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!"), Vince Gill ("Away in a Manger"), and the London Symphony Orchestra.

The 36-track, double-disc var-

next page ►

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MUSIC

Holiday pop CDs

◀ previous page

ious artists holiday compilation *Now That's What I Call Christmas!* (UMG) boasts a line-up from Christmases "past and present." Disc one is mostly made up of classic holiday numbers from the '40s ("Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" by Gene Autry), the '50s ("White Christmas" by Bing Crosby, "Blue Christmas" by Elvis Presley), and the '60s ("A Holly Jolly Christmas" by Burl Ives, "Little Saint Nick" by The Beach Boys.) Disc two touches on the '70s (John, Yoko and The Plastic Ono Band's "Happy Xmas/War Is Over" and Paul McCartney's "Wonderful Christmase"), the '80s (Band Aid's "Do They Know It's Christmas?", the '90s (Gloria Estefan's "Love on Layaway," Luther Vandross' "O Come All Ye Faithful" and the present (Britney Spears, 'N Sync).

The various-artists collection *Season's Greetings* (Hip-O) has its own "honor roll of great artists past & present," including The Waitresses ("Christmas Wrapping"), Judy Garland ("Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas"), Stephanie Mills ("White Christmas"), Brenda Lee ("Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree"), Jimmy Durante ("Frosty the Snowman"), Eartha Kitt ("Santa Baby") and The Isley Brothers ("Special Gift.")

Initially released in 1995 as a "special live limited-edition" single recorded at John T. Floores Country Store, Helotes, Texas by Robert Earl Keene's former record

label Sugar Hill, *Merry Christmas from the Family* has taken on a whole new life. The hilarious holiday single has been reissued with the publication of a companion illustrated book (Dance Floor Books, \$16.99.) The book of color photos includes the cast of the song (such as little sister and her new boyfriend, Brother Ken, his two ex-wives, his current wife, and his children), making it an authentically novel Christmas novelty.

A *Very Special Christmas 5* (A&M), with its trademark Keith Haring graphic, contains both live and studio recordings of rocking holiday numbers. Contributors include Macy Gray (Donny Hathaway's "This Christmas"), Eve 6 ("Noel! Noel!"), and Dido ("Christmas Day.")

Christmas At Rao's: A Celebration of Family, Friends & Holiday Spirit (Columbia/Legacy), with songs performed by Frankie Pellegrino, Michael Amante, Jerry Vale, Lou Monte, Dion and Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge, suggests what Christmas might sound like on the jukebox at the famed Italian eatery.

Finally, if you are in the mood for a blue Christmas, may I suggest the nearly 10-year-old *Alligator Records Christmas Collection* (Alligator), which features the song "One Parent Christmas" by Saffire-The Uppity Blues Women; or the brand-new *B.B. King's A Christmas Celebration of Hope* (MCA), which includes the King originals ("Christmas Love") along with "Backdoor Santa," "Lonesome Christmas," and "Blue Decorations." ▼

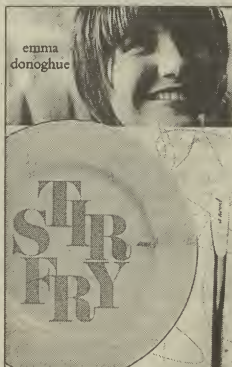
Book Report

◀ page 33

missing volumes. Redmann's Mickey Knight series is one of the best in dyke dickdom, and the first is a great read, filled with a depth of characterization that is unusual for genre fiction. If you haven't read Redmann's mysteries, *Death by the Riverside* is a fine place to begin.



Chicken is a very funny stroll through the joys and tribulations of pan-generational relationships. Specifically, it is the story of Lynn, a 40-something dyke who finds herself involved with Lexy, who was born in 1973, "if you can believe that it's possible for someone to have been born in the 1970s and now walk, talk, hold a job,



and have sex." My guess is that you have to have attained a certain maturity to get the humor of that observation, but if you have, this is one *Chicken* that even vegans would enjoy devouring.

Another out-of-print novel rescued, this time by Alyson, from an undeserved oblivion is Emma Donoghue's glorious first novel, *Stir-fry* (\$12.95), a tale of coming out that delights both mind and heart. Few seasoned novelists write with the grace, elegance and humor that Donoghue achieves. This novel is a gift to all of us who love and live to read. ▼

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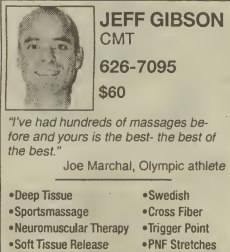
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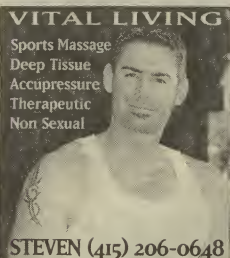


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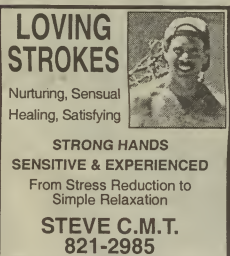
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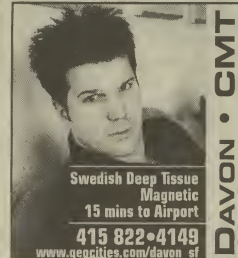
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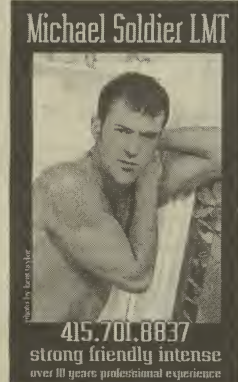
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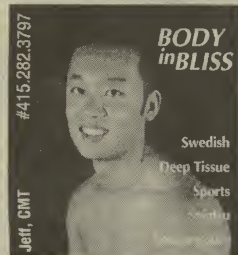
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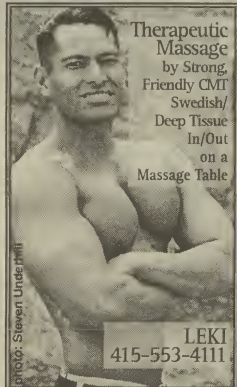
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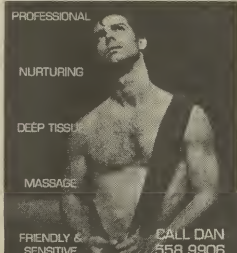
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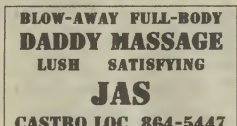
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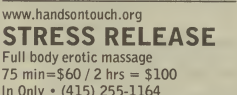


EROTIC SPIRITUALITY

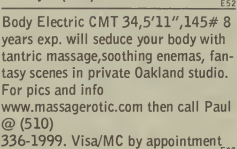
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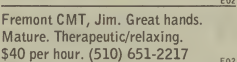
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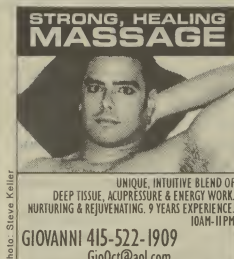
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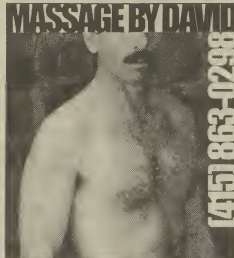
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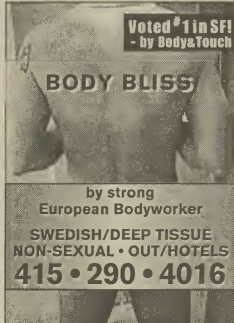
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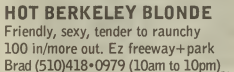
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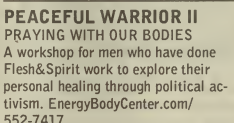
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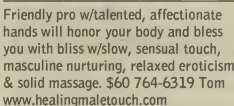
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A workshop for men who have done Flesh & Spirit work to explore their personal healing through political activism. EnergyBodyCenter.com/ 552-7417

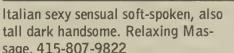


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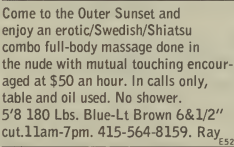
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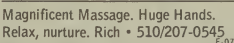
Massage-exchange.com, men's club to trade massage, 866-258-2782. Phone working now!



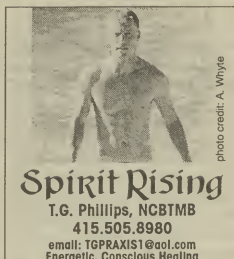
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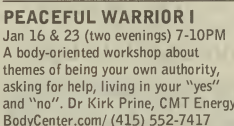
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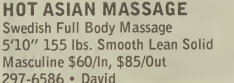
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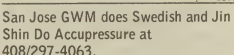
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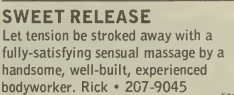


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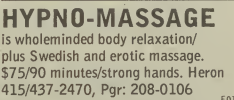
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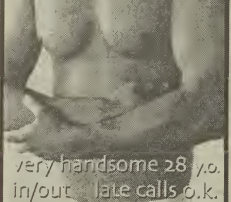
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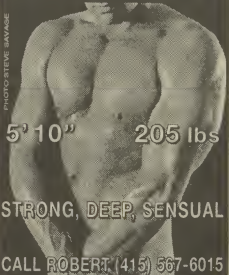


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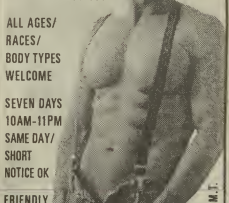
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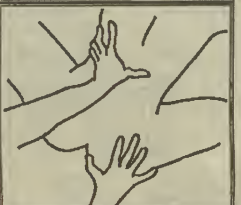
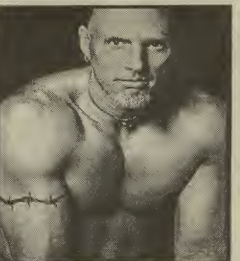
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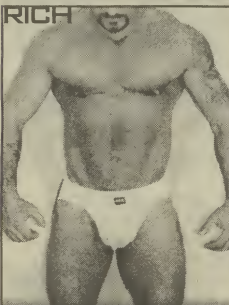
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5'9-210-TATS-UNCUT-FF
SEXY-VERY MASCULINE
MILD TO WILD

415-370-5001

Tom BuStone
SF BAY AREA



Handsome Hairy Hung
6' 160# 35 AllTop

Reliable Professional Trustworthy Open-Minded Discreet Safe

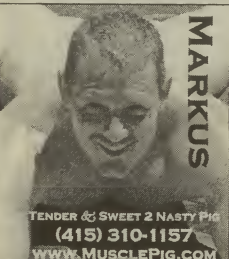
Vanilla Kink Domination Fetish Play Role Play Massage

HOT!

its your money - Demand Quality
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Calls returned in 5 mins.
email:TomBuStoneXX@aol.com

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TENDER & SWEET 2 NASTY PIG
(415) 310-1157
WWW.MUSCLEPIG.COM

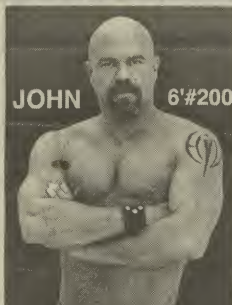
9"

24 hrs, 24 hrs, 24 hrs
Dark blonde hair
hazel eyes
washboard stomach
27" waist · versatile
Call anytime 837-8900
for immediate callback

LEATHER KINK
LONG, SENSUAL SESSIONS
WITH A TOP WHO ENJOYS
TAKING HIS TIME, TALL &
BUILT, FULL PLAYROOM.


RICK 431-0959

JOHN 6'200



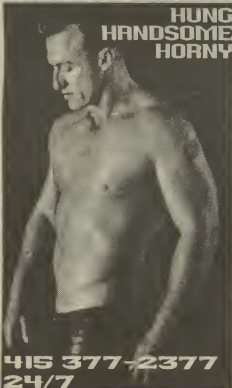
415-608-7952
www.MUSCLEholeSF.com

leather FF D
ryker



415-577-0460
40 5'11" 180
beginners welcome!

HUNG
HANDSOME
HORNY



415 377-2377
24/7

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

Mike, 36, 5'10", 200#, B/Blu
Clean-cut, Muscle Hunk
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932

Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160
CHOKO ON THIS!
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
all top masc dominant real 10x7
gentle strength & arousing edge
intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla
outcalls/hottubs/travl Bay Area
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DOMINANT ASIAN TOP
Handsome good body 5'11", 160 lbs
Sexy \$80/in, 100/out David 297-6568

GREAT LOAD



HONEST 9" THICK CUT LARGE SMOOTH LOW
HANGERS. MUSCULAR LEAN GYM BODY.
BIG LOAD WHEREVER YOU NEED IT MOST.
BLONDE. 31YRS. 5'11", 170#, XLNT
PERFORMER. TOTALLY ACCURATE AD. TOP
STUD. OUT-CALLS **CALL IAN-S120**
IN S.F. **415.809.0264**

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ESCORT VISITING
6'1" • 240lbs

MASCULINE, FRIENDLY, GOOD REPUTATION

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BD/SM
FANTASY
MY
TALENT



www.BONDAGEMASTER.COM

Get Naked/Relax/Hug/Release/
Oral/8" Nudist/346-4966/Ken/\$80

AFFECTIONATE
*****STUD*****
25 GWM 6' 190lbs 32wst Big Legs
7" cut Hot BubbleButt Cleancut
Masculine Versatile In/Out 24/7
PAGE ME 415-227-7727

5'7" 135#sexy, slim, smooth 908-8888
ASIAN PORN STAR
Hot, horny, handsome \$65in/\$85out
Asian 31 5'7" 135 Tom 412-7261
http://move.to/fun4all/

21, NEW IN TOWN!
5'9", 135#, 6'c, Thin Swimmer's Build,
Great Legs & Ass, Cute, Boyish & Playful.
In-Out, Versatile/Open Minded. 24/7.
Nick: 415-414-4200.

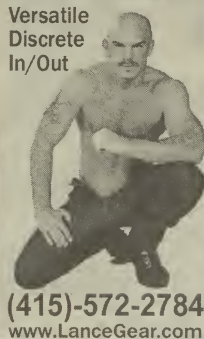
SAN JOSE STUDENT
Justin, 24 6'2", 175 cute,
Naturally smooth runners build,
awesome endowment, In/Out 408-
348-4425 or EscortInSJ@hotmail.com

Frat Boy Hunk
Solid Muscular Pecs, Abs & Legs
Deep throat and young jock ass.
5'9", 155#, 30'w, 8" 246-4460

HOT TOP
Italian 6'2", 200lbs. 35yrs old, thick
fat tool, hung, 9x6. Smooth and mus-
cular. Also available for sensual mas-
sage. Serving SF and all Bay Area.
Anthony 510 418-0691

Lance Gear

Versatile
Discrete
In/Out



(415)-572-2784
www.LanceGear.com

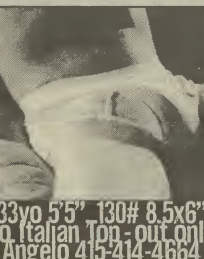
Peter



Versatile
Discrete
In/Out

Partner
Available
see ad above

(415)-596-7052
www.RentBoyPeter.com



33yo 5'5" 130# 8.5x6"
So Italian Top - out only
Angelo 415-414-4664

33, 5'8", 150# toned hairy tattooed
FIST MASTER
Jeff 415-215-8396 Out only
http://come.to/jeffsfist

Hot blonde w/ green eyes 5'7" 135
SEXY NEW BOYTOY
Hot & horny 22yo smooth/versti
in/out calls-Jason 415-948-9589

BIKER TOP, ITALIAN
6'3", 235lbs, muscular, inked,
thick stache & tool 13ee feet
Bruno 415-596-6235

LEATHER TOP!
Light to heavy sensual S/M
handsome experienced w/dungeon
TOM 415-487-1296

27yo Latin top uncut safe
8"5'6" 135# \$100 Franc pg 251 2723

LATIN HUNK
34yo. musc, hung 8", 165#. 5'9",
nice chest. Bud nasty, vers top will
travel (408) 607-7995


DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE
27, 5'11", 195 Solid Muscle Grmn
boy & 35, 5'8", 190 shvd head tats
Solid Italian muscle man 846*3337

Handsome Masculine* Hung*Dude*
KICKS BACK FOR YOU
5'11" *175*br/gr*mid 30's*8" cut
Days ok-Soma-\$75/In Randy 309-1032

9x5 Package Delivered
BIKE MESSENGER
28 yo Bi Br/Br 6' Lean Body
415-987-0985 \$80 In/Out. Jesse

BIG THICK MEAT
6'3", 195lbs 29yo blue/brn nasty
smooth versatile. I love my job. Jake
415 595 5874.

20Y/O ASIAN SKATER DUDE




DREW 415 577-6210

erotic massage nipple play
body worship affection etc.
vanilla to rough always safe



devon 415.577.7321
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GET OFF AFTER HOURS
friday - saturday
midnight-4am



\$5
WITH THE
dub220
220 JONES ST. 673-3384 dub220sf.com

14 EEE
FOOT FETISH
etc.
219 6000

CUM STARVED
MUSCLE PUNK
Nick 709-1467
Submissive bottom Great service
Party Party/346-4966/Ken/\$80

PUERTO RICAN 24
Versatile, 5'10", 175lbs, muscular,
masculine, friendly, tattoos, very
attractive, passionate, 10cut,
down to earth. In/out Angelo
510-872-9918

LEATHER BEAR TOP
41 yo goodlooking hairy guy, 6'1"
225# 7" uncut. See photo ad (Dom.
Leatherman) Bondage-SM, Have/space
Scott (415) 414-1132 pg# In/out

* HORNY- MSCLD- TOP-40 *
LTHR SEXY DAD
UNCUT 8"- 5'9"- 165#- HDSDM
Hairy+buzzd * w/go-t * very gd
yng looking French Mediter.
Msclexydad@aol.com/533 9143

TOTAL PACKAGE
23yr-old cute, muscular and
masculine Asian ava. (510) 558-7382

HORSEHUNGLATIN
5'8" 155# Bli/brn 32w smooth
muscular build Robert 415 540 2284

HOT SALSA
Versatile, well hung, handsome
travel available. 415 789 8094

WWW.HOTASIANMEN.NET
Masculine asianstud 5'9" 160 7"
uncut 415-586-1430 Michael

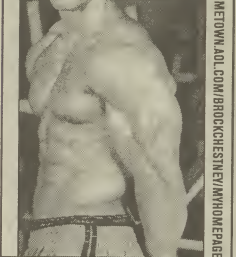
GQ MODEL
Very hot 28 yr old 5'9", 165#
slim muscular 8x6 cut
hot great butt. Older guys only
Dave 415 224 4971
davetylercalifornia@hotmail.com

PERSONALS

MODEL/ESCORTS

FRENCH MARINE
Bodybuilder,
220lbs, 6'1", 52ch, 21"A,
26 years.
New in town from
Paris, France
(415) 871-9037

BROCK CHESTNEY
22yo student visiting from DC



5'10", 185#, brn hair, blu eyes, 18" arms,
44" chest, 32" waist,
pure ripped muscle. Out calls only.
202.422.4400

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TOTALTOP
.COM**

RAY HARLEY - XXXSTAR
In SF Dec 25-Jan 5, available for
escort: Rayharleyxxx@aol.com

ASIAN FEVER
Chinese vers/top. 5'7", 130#, 30yr
\$80/out only 415-563-8711
http://aznescort.batcave.net

2002POPMYCORK
Fitness trainer 6/185 blond Adonis
Hot cleancut sexy goodlooks. A top!
Butt play specialist. Out 310-2930

Smooth bottom Chris 370-4341

9 INCHES OF BLACKMEAT
Evening & weekends 510 336 1999 Tony

MEXICAN 26
Versatile 5'9", 165lbs masculine,
handsome page me. Osvaldo 415
414 4264 in/out

HOT HAWAIIAN FILIPINO
29, smooth & muscular for massage
Alan @ (415) 221-3891

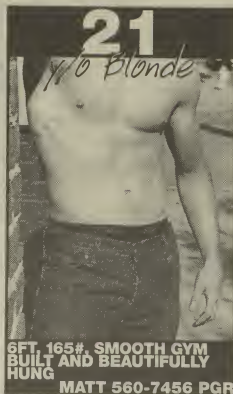
BOYS ARE US!
All types, all areas, some 24/7
Give yourself a 1 hour vacation
\$210/hr. (415) 219-0770 Joey =)
Please use area code when pagin

COLLEGE BOY-21
www.geocities.com/sfcheckit
377-1704cell. \$100/in \$120/out

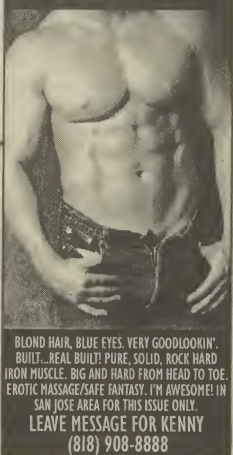
BORN TO SERVE MEN
HOT, HUNGRY, HORNY BOTTOM
Ale, 242-4230, 24 hrs. in/out

EUROPEAN SENSUALITY
20yo. 6'1", 7", br/green, out.
(415) 254 5750

Horny? Need relief? PNP 24h 207 0508
*NEW YEARS CUMDOWN??



**6FT. 165#. SMOOTH GYM
BUILT AND BEAUTIFULLY
HUNG**
MATT 560-7456 PGR



**BLOND HAIR, BLUE EYES, VERY GOODLOOKIN'.
BUILT...REAL BUILT! PURE, SOLID, ROCK HARD
IRON MUSCLE. BIG AND HARD FROM HEAD TO TOE.
EROTIC MASSAGE/SAFE FANTASY. I'M AWESOME! IN
SAN JOSE AREA FOR THIS ISSUE ONLY.
LEAVE MESSAGE FOR KENNY
(818) 908-8888**

HOT CHINESE STUD
25yo/o, 5'11", 172lbs, big uncut, top,
smooth, suave, playful 415 251-0261

HOT CUBAN TOP
9x6 uncut beauty. Handsome 6'3"
170# smooth gym body. Xpert fuhr
\$70 in nice apt. Alex 643-7770

HOT CHOCOLATE
Very attractive, str8 looking,
friendly 23yo w/big tool
5'10", 150lbs in/out
Cameron 415 871 5610

WANT IT ROUGH?
Lean smooth leather top, 33
gives it like you need it. Sling
FF/SM/BD/TT/WS limits expanded
PAGE JACK 219-5608

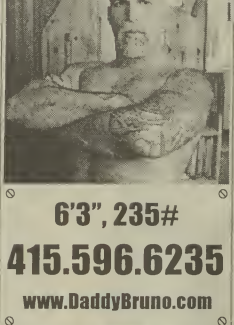
**SAN JOSE STUD
WWW.SJBOY.COM**
25, 5'11", 165#, blond hair
Pager/voice: 888-325-3005

Party boy-24hr-hung-vers. -Horny
open New Years+after. Out 207 0508

SOUTH AMERICAN
21yo/o Great body 5'8", 140lbs in/out
"8" (415) 252-0430 New in town.



Beginners Welcome
Have equipment and playspace.
Scott (415) 414-1132 In/Out
www.masterscott.com



6'3", 235#
415.596.6235
www.DaddyBruno.com



www.tonyscalia.com
(415) 595-3942

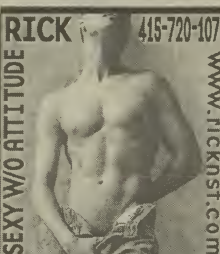
TOTAL TOP, HUNG 8.5X6,
Musc, frndly 5'10", 170#, \$150
254-3457

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
ASIAN TOP
\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

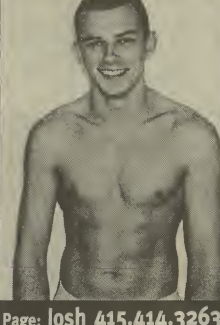
Mike, 36, 5'10", 200#, BI/BU
Clean-cut, Muscle Hung
In/Out \$100 (415) 863-8932

Handsome hung Italian 34, 6', 160
CHOKE ON THIS!
Tight lean bod hairy chest/legs
all top masc dominant real 10x7
intlgnt, verbal, kink-2-vanilla
outcalls/hottubs/travlr Bay Area
415-256-6743 TomBuStonexxx@aol

S/M SENSUALITY
-long, & slow- my specialty,
6'2", 185, strong, gymtuned
master into all aspects &
degrees of leatherplay.
S/M, B&D, FF, WS, raunch.
Lord 431-0959



SEXY W/O ATTITUDE
www.ricknast.com



Page: Josh 415.414.3263



RUSSIAN
DIMITRI
6'2" 180#
26yo
Clean to safe
deep body rub • flexible
415 210-0831 pager

WANTED!
SPANKING MODELS
MAN'S HAND FILMS
send photo to
11288 Ventura Blvd 440B
Studio City CA 91604
mh1@www.manshandfilms.co

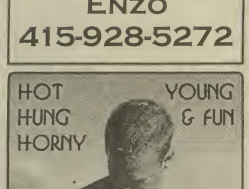
Get Naked/Relax/Hug/Release/
Oral/8" Nudist/346-4966/Ken/\$80



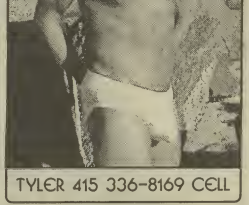
Oh Daddy!
10.5 x 7.5
6'3"
190
48
www.sfhungdad.com
YM/PGR
(415) 224-9382



10X6 UNCUT TOP
ENZO
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TYLER 415 336-8169 CELL



JEFF RYAN
washboard abs
cut chest
big arms
friendly
respectful
educated
415-317-0527

excellent top
actual 8"
5'10, 160#

FETISH, ANYONE?
Are you a man with a unique imagination?
Special cravings? Enjoy erotic
adventure tailored to your special kink.
Mild to edge. Private playroom.
Call LEATHERMASTER
436-9379

Asian 31 5'7" 135 Tom 412-7261
http://move.to/fun4all/


**HOLIDAY AD DEADLINES ARE CHANGED
FOR THE WEEK OF NEW YEAR.**

**Issue date Jan 3, 2002:
display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001**

XXX WEB

FREE TRIAL MEMBERSHIP!

11,000+ men SERVED DAILY



m4m4sex.com

WE GO BOTH WAYS!**A1 Pleasures Adult Directory**

1 Month Free for New Advertisers

1 hr Photo Shoot \$40

Your Ad posted

within 24hrs

(707)

399-7651

<http://a1pleasures.com>100%
Free
Access

PEOPLE



TALK LIVE GAY

Check it out!

415/626-8255

TALK SEX

900/50-50-500

18+/CC/CH

99¢ + 38¢/min

PEOPLE

Join The Party!

Browse, match, chat!

Connect Live 1 on 1!

Record & listen to ads FREE!

415-247-5555

use free access code: 1856

voice MALE

18+ Callers are not 100% screened. 800-825-1598

Butt Bottoms wanted for FF/toys
415-752-0971

39-02

PENIS-ENLARGEMENT.NET
FDA Approved vacuum pumps/surgical, permanent & safe. Enhance erection. Latest enlargement info. 619-295-HUNG or 900-976-PUMP (\$2.95 min)

E03

Good Head in Sonoma County.
Call Days 707-823-3895

E05

Concord GAM luv's sucking cock
Sks 20-40s STD/HIV- G/B/BL/WM
Pls no overweights 925 671 2704

E06/2002

Big Boy wanted for Care +
by dominant dad. • 665-4825

E52

PEOPLE

Catch a First-Timer
Connect with HOT SINGLES Tonight!
On the Confidential Connection* 18+
LISTEN & RECORD FREE!
Call 415-247-2000 Use Access code 3954

5000 SWINGING SINGLES!
HOT SINGLES are waiting Tonight!
On the Confidential Connection* 18+
LISTEN & RECORD FREE!
Call 415-247-2000
Use Access code 4858

24 HOUR MEN!
24 hours a day HOT, HUNG MEN
are looking to HOOK-UP on Club
Voice-MALE! 18+ Record & Listen
FREE! Call 415-247-5555
Use Access code 1737

DISCREET ENCOUNTERS!
BE TEMPTED BY
HOT SINGLES NOW!
Call 18+ LISTEN & RECORD FREE!
415-247-2001
Use Access code 1778

BI CURIOUS?
Local Live Male Chat.
Record/listen to ads for FREE!
415-330-4888 or
1-888-272-7277 toll free.
Use FREE code 2166

MR. SF LEATHER 2002
will be chosen at Club Townsend on
FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 2002
Make plans now! Gear up now!

E52

SELL YOUR BOOKS AND PHOTOS!

Top prices paid for materials on aspects of gay & lesbian life - books, pamphlets, photos, physique and porn mags, vids, Tijuana bibles, posters and memorabilia. Call Mike at 415/863-6353 Mon-Sat 12-6 PM or AI at 415/420-6976.

E52

TURN YOUR STASH INTO CASH! WE BUY PORN!

We buy magazines, photos and videos Top \$\$ paid for your stuff. Call Steve or Patrick @ 415-621-1188 10am to 5:30pm weekdays. Premium paid for old, classic porn.

E52

LIVE NUDE DILDO DEMO

Hot Cub! Private Hr/20 • 208-0078

E04

CUB SEEKS BEAR

For LTR/2-man sex show 208-0078

E04

MR. SAN FRANCISCO LEATHER 2002

will be chosen on March 9, 2002.
Are you man enough to hold the title?

E52

SEASON'S BEATINGS

Bad Boys Spanked 415-864-2766

E52

STERILE BODYSHV & TRIM

\$20.+ Travel. Robert (415) 777-5911

E52

FREE MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE 4 RIGHT PERSON

Airfare to Miami & 1 night hotel room plus a FREE! cruise for the right person with a valid passport and a good digital video camera. Cruise the Med. for 8 days and 7 nights with Comic Diva Shann Carr. Fly to Miami Jan 25th. Cruise departs Jan 26th, returns Feb 2. If you qualify, call (760)202-0404 for all details immed.

E02

Hot nudist with deep throat seeks Dad age 50+ hung 9+ for oral and J/O fun/Ken/346-4966

E52

Santa Rosa X military Sgt 6' 185# tight hole big cannon 707 523 4467. Mike Leave message.

E52

Bare-Assed Spanking
Experienced, Safe: 504-7776
www.daddyhoward.com

E01-2002

Blowjobs, etc. 415-285-8390

E03

PEOPLE

THE Play ROOM

REAL GUYS

FOR ONLY 19¢ Per min.

Connect Live 1 on 1!

1-800-HOT-MALE

*Plus .95¢ connect fee. 18+ only!

WANTED!

BAY AREA MEN

- Live Talk
- Meet Ads
- Voice Mail

24 Hours
\$2.00
976-7500

Free
(415) 981-8123

Meet MEN Right Now!

MRN

MrN MrN

Preview each guy before you decide to connect live!

Try it for

FREE

(415) 707-2400 (510) 281-2400
(408) 539-2400 (650) 649-2500
(707) 582-2400 (925) 955-2000

!!HUMAN TO MAN!!

HOT Men are waiting to Tempt YOU!!! 18+ Only!

Call 415-247-5555 or 510-749-9966

Use Access code 1737

Police Impounds
Repossessions
US Government Property
Cars, Trucks

For useful info, mail \$10 to
Michael Brown c/o Victor
111 Potrero Ave. San Francisco, CA 94103

ALL MALE PARTY LINE

Connect live to hot local guys or listen to the Ads for FREE! Just call

1-888-272-7277

And enter FREE trial code 2166

Local Live Connections
Try it **FREE!**

interactive male

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408-257-4411

Pleasanton
925-426-5588

Palo Alto
650-223-0200

Berkeley
510-238-8877

For other California areas
1-888-272-7277

San Francisco
415-330-4888

Use FREE code 2160

1-900-505-2323 (\$1.99/min.) 18+ Browse at www.interactivemale.com

HORNY/STRAIGHT GUYS 1-900-505-2324 10¢ (min. 18+)

Casual Sex 30Free
with code 9881

Women Call Free! For over 287 cities
1-888-465-4LUV (4584)

Like Leather?

Record, listen & respond to personal ads **FREE!**

San Francisco
415-247-2000

East Bay
510-814-6699

Metro San Jose
408-532-3000

Use FREE Access Code 3324

www.confidentialconnection.com

THE CONFIDENTIAL CONNECTION

18+ Caller are not pre-screened. 800-825-1508

BAY AREA REPORTER CLASSIFIED ORDER FORM

DEADLINE

NOON on MONDAY.
Payment must accompany ad.
No ads taken over the telephone. If you have a question, call 415.861.5019.
Display advertising rates available upon request.

RATES

First line, Regular 4.50
All subsequent lines 3.00
CAPS double price
BOLD double price
X-BOLD triple price

PAYMENT

- ☐ Cash
☐ Personal Check
☐ Money Order
☐ Visa
☐ MasterCard
☐ American Express

Minimum \$10 charge.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT

Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____
Signature _____
Name _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name _____ Telephone _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Number of Issues _____ Classification _____ Amount Enclosed _____

MAIL WITH PAYMENT TO:
Bay Area Reporter
395 Ninth Street
SF, CA 94103
OR FAX TO:
415.861.8144
OR E-MAIL:
baradv@aol.com

HOLIDAY AD DEADLINES ARE CHANGED FOR THE WEEK OF NEW YEAR.

Issue date Jan 3, 2002: display and line ads are due 12pm, Friday Dec. 28, 2001

another good year brought to a great end.

thanks &

HAPPY NEW YEAR



STEAMWORKS

BERKELEY CA CHICAGO IL SAN JUAN PR

24/7 MEN'S BATHHOUSE

2107 4th St / Berkeley

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